THE TIMES
LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

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6 AUGUST 1971
No. 3,623

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THE TIMES
LITERARY SUPPLEMENT
FRIDAY 13 AUGUST 1971 . No. 3,624 . Price 10p

Quarrelling with technology

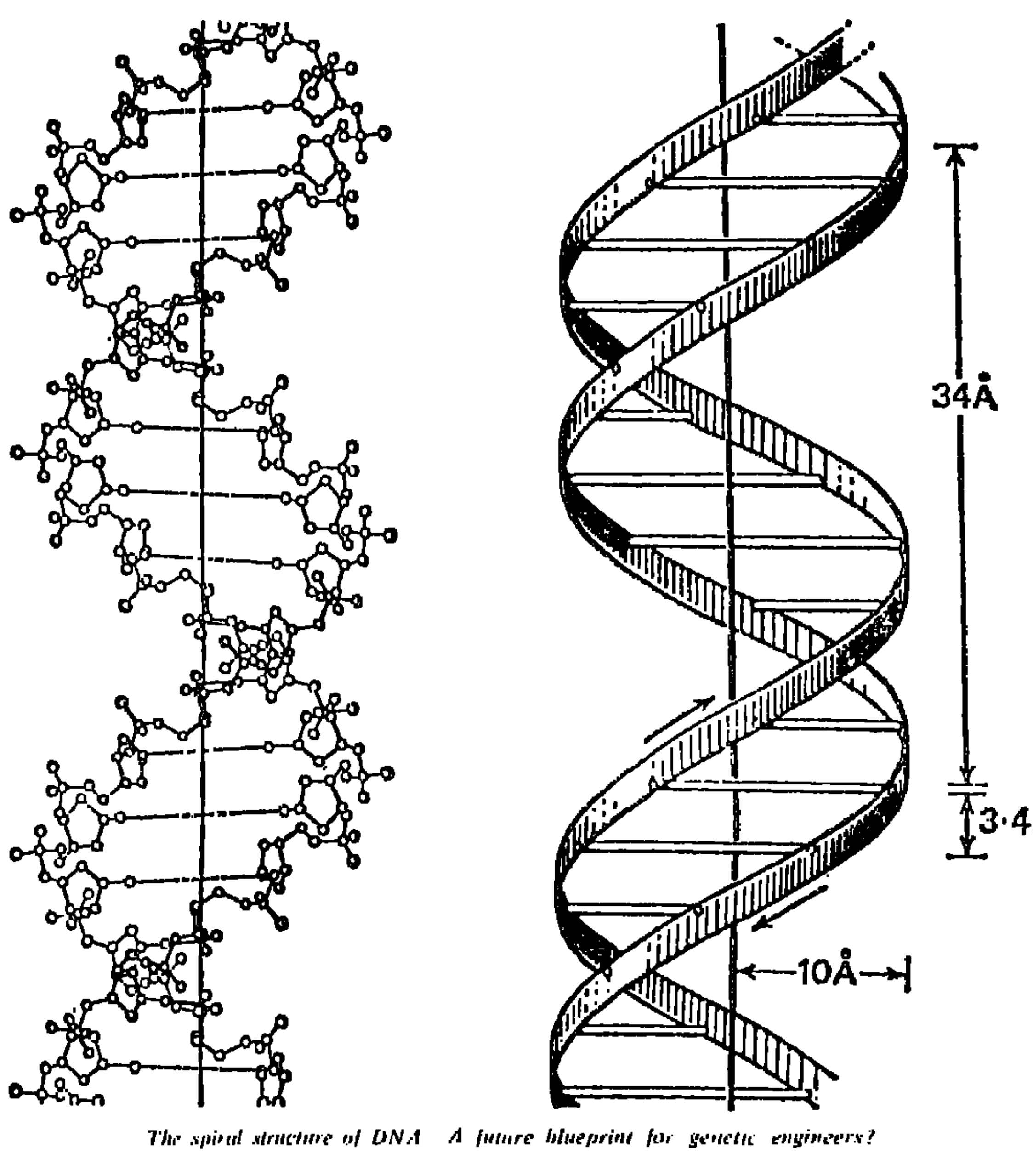
"Can technology be humane?" asks Paul Goodman in the perceptive essay which concludes *The Social Responsibility of the Scientist*. It is a question which, in a sense, underlies all these books, though rarely as explicitly stated as in Mr Goodman's essay. More often, the question is fudged: Colin Leicester, in a twenty-seven-page contribution to *Technology Today*, concludes at the end of his third paragraph that "ethics is something that will not be discussed further here", thereby putting the whole topic in what he at any rate regards as its proper place. But even the optimists among the contributors to the collections of essays which make up three of the five books under review are aware that they are, at the least, defending a citadel under attack.

The amazing Edward de Bono himself—readers of the now-defunct [illegible] *Journal* will recall his saturnine features, out of which peered remarkably soulful eyes, in the thumbnail sketch adorning the head of a monthly column entitled "Playback", while others may simply know him as everyman's pop scientist, inventor of "lateral thinking"—even he opens the preface to his little book with the limpid sentence "For society to quarrel with technology is like a man quarrelling with his legs". Yet, strange to say, this quarrel is precisely what is now going on, and Dr de Bono is not above the fray.

The issues are not trivial but fundamental to continued human survival. Can we use our science and technology creatively, for the welfare of mankind, or must it be irretrievably linked with destruction? Is the industrial-military-scientific complex so powerful that its defeat requires the rejection not merely of parts of science but of *all* science? Is it already too late, as the doom-mongers would have us believe, so that irreversible damage has already been done to human health and sanity and the natural environment in which we live?

If we rank the authors and contributors as ranging between optimists and pessimists, undoubtedly the [illegible] of the former is Donald Schon. Dr Schon, it will be remembered, achieved instant fame in *Private Eye* as Dr Reisenschein, the youngest man ever to give the prestigious Reith Lectures. *Beyond the Stable State* was obviously written before the lectures, but they were largely based on it.

Dr Schon appears as a rich man's de Bono, or a latter-day Samuel Smiles, ready with instant diagnoses of America's ills, from the boot and shoe industry to revolution and counter-insurgency. For everything, there is, he claims, as befits a former think-tank man, ex-Arthur D. Little and now President of OSTI (Organization for Social and Technical Innovation), a technological fix. There is, even, clearly a technological fix to solve the rapid-reading problem: for the book, with a nod to McLuhan and the problem of the hard-pressed executive in mind, is divided into punchy paragraphs with little [illegible] down the side to indicate the penetrating of its obiter dicta.



The spiral structure of DNA: A future blueprint for genetic engineers?

DONALD A. SCHON:
Beyond the Stable State
254pp. Temple Smith £2.50.

EDWARD de BONO (Editor):
Technology Today
144pp. Routledge and Kegan Paul £1.75 (paperback, 50p).

DEAN SCHOOLER, Jr:
Science, Scientists, and Public Policy
338pp. Collier-Macmillan. Paperback, £2.

WATSON FULLER (Editor):
The Social Impact of Modern Biology.
256pp. Routledge and Kegan Paul. £1 (paperback, 50p).

MARTIN BROWN (Editor):
The Social Responsibility of the Scientist
282pp. Collier-Macmillan. Paperback, £2

Dr Schon's thesis is relatively straightforward. His unstated premise is that it is possible to analyse any social phenomenon, from the interaction of two individuals to the broadest of social movements of change, according to techniques which are a grandiose version of operations research, systems analysis, and cybernetics. So obvious does this proposition appear to him that he does not even feel it necessary to defend it: conflict theories of society become, in the broad sweep of his analysis, simply subsumed into systems analysis; even they can be made to work more efficiently, granted Dr Schon's analytical technique.

This is really technological consultancy gone mad: whatever the cause, a contract to OSTI will clearly help it along. Technological analyses are there for the buying; whether you are the "blindness industry" or the "youth movement", your activities can be analysed, and your turnover and profits improved. Such are the promises of technological neutrality. Yet this "Mr Fixit" view of the world ignores the fact that one of the major challenges posed by the "youth movement" (Dr Schon's phrase) is precisely to this technological neutrality. The movement resists this type of analysis just because technological manipulation is a facet of contemporary society which it rejects.

Quite apart from this fundamental pretentiousness over what the real issues actually are, we may well be sceptical of such grand analyses as Dr Schon offers. If a model can be developed which, when suitable parameters are fed in, fits everything from the rise and fall of New England stone-masons to hospital management and the decay of the city, we may question whether the general system has not become so general as to be operationally meaningless or philosophically otiose. In recent years there has been a re-emergence of old theories concerning "emergent properties" and "holistic systems" in the natural sciences, partly as a reaction to the successes of reductionism, especially in contemporary molecular biology. One exponent of those views, for example, is David Bohm, whose "holocyclic" model is given in one chapter of *The Social Impact of Modern Biology*. Dr Schon's philosophical antecedents lie in this debate, and it is yet one further weakness of his book that he does not show the slightest self-consciousness about it.

The first three of these books are written in atrocious English. Goodness knows, the subject is difficult enough, but Goethe's dictum that an improvement in style is an improvement in thought should be chiselled into the authors' desks. Thus Dr de Bono, writing on technology, is energetic to the point of being frenetic: not unlike, in fact, a television commercial. With boyish honesty he shyly admits to not knowing what "technology really means"—it is the other chap's word. Then he tosses off a series of dynamic definitions and propositions: "technology is the grammar of the future", "technology is an impression rather than a definition", "technology is now the major source of change in society". Technology, we feel, half-mesmerized, is like happiness—it is now egg-shaped.

Sir Frederick Warner's essay in *Technology Today* strikes a rather different note. The voice is that of the company chairman, sonorous, assured, demonstrating just the right touch of social concern, in contrast

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to the shrill overstatements of technology's PRO men. But it is perhaps William Gunston and Colin Leicester who articulate most clearly the technocratic ideology which runs throughout this book. Dr Gunston sees resistance to technology as fundamentally irrational: he makes no distinction, for example, between resistance to the railways, to fluoridation, to the London motorway box or to moving to a new town. For Dr Gunston all new technologies are harbingers of progress and should be embraced. However, his diagnosis of why people in Britain, at any rate, are reluctant to do so is delightfully non-scientific, "stemming", he says, "largely from a trait in the modern British Character that resists any change, even one seeming to bring direct personal benefit".

Faith in Dr Gunston's analysis is further shaken when we examine his examples of corporations and governmental agencies achieving the next-to-highest level of technological development, the stage of "informed enthusiasm". A list which includes Rolls-Royce, NASA and the US Air Force looks, in the light of fairly recent Whitehall and Washington decisions and very recent revelations, as if it will never reach Dr Gunston's highest stage, that of "informed unconcern". In the case of the US Air Force and its computer-controlled air-war in Vietnam—and indeed the whole McNamara think-tank style—it looks less like technocracy and more like old-fashioned and distinctly dirty power politics.

Dr Leicester puts his trust in the supremacy of facts for the evaluation of social policy. Ethics, as he says, are not his concern, they are just something about which people disagree. As an example of the beneficial use of facts to evaluate policy, he cites the Report of the Robbins Committee on Higher Education, with its six massive and well-documented appendixes. Yet after all the subsequent years of criticism, Dr Leicester is still unable to see the fatal flaw in the Robbins Report and, for that matter, in the Robbins mismanagement of the LSE affair. Nowhere does the Robbins Committee ask what higher education should be *for*. And nowhere do Dr de Bono and his colleagues ask what technology should be *for*. That their conclusion, like that of the Robbins Committee, should be "more of the same" is thus scarcely surprising. It is that expression of liberal-conservatism which is the hallmark of empiricist ideology.

At least Dean Schooler tries. He knows what the issues *ought* to be: he just finds it very difficult to write about them coherently and intelligibly. As a result, the less said about *Science, Scientists, and Public Policy* the better, concerning either style or content. Beginning with an appetite-whetting discussion between Barberini and Galileo concerning the conditions in which scientists should conceal knowledge, in one quick galloping chapter we are rushed through normative utopians to the empiricists, to arrive at a seemingly endless wodge of conventional wisdom about the social control of science, only enlivened by rather good quotations from more interesting authors than Professor Schooler, such as Kenneth Boulding.

* * *

To see the real issues which are raised by the development of science and technology and their social contexts, it is necessary to turn to *The Social Impact of Modern Biology* and *The Social Responsibility of the Scientist*. Both are collections of essays originally given as lectures. Watson Fuller's collection is the published version of a three-day conference organized by the British Society for Social Responsibility in Science last November as an attempt at public discussion of the social issues raised by recent developments in biology, from genetic engineering to biological warfare; Martin Brown's collection derives from a lecture course organized by the biochemist Joe Neilands for students at Berkeley, California. The editors and publishers of both collections have done a useful job in getting the books out so quickly.

The issues raised by the two books are similar but do not overlap. A substantial proportion of *The Social Impact of Modern Biology* is devoted to a solid account of just what the key developments of molecular biology have been in the past two decades (there is of course more to biology than the genetic code, and while it is legitimate to specialize in so short a book, the title is somewhat misleading). The chapters by Hayes, Pollock, Humphrey, and Galston are certainly authoritative enough at something like *Scientific American* level, but they are not easy reading for the non-scientists wanting to discover what is going on, and they certainly are not helped by a paucity of diagrams, the dark grey type on pale grey paper, and strange little "discussions" after each chapter, like a technical scientific symposium. One has the impression that the editor and publishers were not quite certain what sort of book they were producing.

The divisions that emerged within the scientific community at the conference, carefully analysed in opening and closing chapters by Maurice Wilkins, are best typified by the position adopted by Jacques Monod, Jacob Bronowski, and R. G. Edwards on the one hand and a group of younger, more radical scientists—Jon Beckwith, Joseph Hancock, Steven and Hilary Rose, and Robert Young—on the other. Professor Bronowski pleads vulgarly, and Professor Monod magisterially, in tones echoing his recent *Le hasard et la nécessité* (*TLS*, May 28, 1971), for a return to "pure" science. In a sense, Professor Monod's vision is the Ariel-ideal towards which the Caliban-like Schon and de Bono strive on a lower plane. For Professor Monod, religion, political systems, and morality have all ceased to exist outside science. He produces a new supreme ethic, that of the objectivity of science. Centre human life on this, he argues, and the problem of value will be resolved.

In many ways he is the last of the great positivists and progressives. Science is progress and cannot be stopped, fall the dice where they will. Whatever the quagmires into which this pursuit may lead us, to Professor Monod it is not a will-o'-the-wisp but a true pilot light. This is the archetype of contemporary reductionism.

For Dr Edwards, as for others whose biology is more closely concerned with human beings than with bacteria, the problem is not so simple. Should the scientist carry the responsibility of fertilizing eggs in the test-tube to help conquer the infertility of some females? Of course, Dr Edwards concludes in a bluffly medical way, staggering but slightly—as one of his critics puts it—under this balsa-wood moral burden. Yet he quite ignores the assumptions implicit in his own acceptance of this role, that the conservative norms of the family and its role are assumed to continue and be sacred, to justify this vast expenditure of research ingenuity—Edwardsism is Monodism with a human face, that of the worthy doctor tempering science with humanity.

The real challenge comes elsewhere. Dr Beckwith, himself the centre of a political storm-in-a-scientific-teacup following his isolation of the lac operon gene, points out that since science cannot be divorced from the social context in which it is performed, science must be either against or for the people. Dr Young and the Roses take the argument further, Young in the context of nineteenth-century biology, the Roses in an attack on what they characterize as the "myth" of the neutrality of twentieth-century science. For them, even the internal content of science is value-laden, and to some extent ideologically determined. Between this and Professor Monod's view of science there is a gap which the conference did not bridge.

* * *

The Social Responsibility of the Scientist does not try to make so fundamental a philosophical challenge, and for that reason is a more even book. Martin Brown has collected a parade of distinguished American scientists to catalogue the failings of the system. No one here has "balanced" a Watson against a Beckwith, for example: all the contributors are critical of "the system"—by which is generally meant the industrial-military plex, and sometimes the nological apparatus of society; it is the intens ticism which varies. Owen Chamberlain feeling is not quite right with m sures on research, to moner's jeremiad of imminent doom.

The essays are clearly selected to range over the current topics of social over technological hazard Gofman and Arthur sinister calculation of the radiation due to the peaceful atomic energy is particular sive, despite the character statement of the case. Brown's collection provides useful guide to some of the discontent with science. wants to start at the begin learn what the furore is here is certainly the place Watson Fuller's collection quired reading for graduate and undergraduates, Dr should be in the schools, that the questions can asked.

* * *

What about the answers Dr Brown's nor Dr Fuller's tion presents much for our The problem, as Mr Goodman out, is the need to ask new question: he points out that political change has occurred past thirty years. In the politicians, faced with a lem, asked, "Is it possible meant *legally* possible; mean *physically* possible. much is indeed physically the need is to choose which achieve desirable technology be humane? itself into a different que society be humane? To tion neither the objectivity nor the technological Schon or de Bono answer.

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Reporting on Hitler

FRANKLIN REID GANNON:
The British Press and Germany 1936-1939
314pp. Clarendon Press: Oxford University Press. £3.25.

Condemnations of, and apologias for, *The Times*'s prewar policy of appeasement have become boring. Although Franklin Reid Gannon's terms of reference cause him to go over much of the old ground yet once again, his book is welcome in that it places that aberration of Printing House Square in a wider setting.

Not in the widest. For the purposes of his study Mr Gannon has taken the British press to be the London newspapers of that time plus *The Manchester Guardian*. His argument that to have included the provincial newspapers and the periodicals would have made his book too cumbersome can be accepted. He was concerned to analyse each newspaper's attitude at each stage of the drift to war. Whether an (admittedly unpractical) analysis of the whole of the British press would not have altered any general conclusion is another matter. Newspapers away from the capital had a simpler, less sophisticated attitude to the problem of Hitler. That they were less fully informed may have made their views less evidential. It did enable some of them to distinguish more clearly between right and wrong.

Mr Gannon's major conclusion that appeasement was the product of a crisis of the liberal conscience is justified. He has had access to the archives of *The Manchester Guardian* as well as to those of *The Times*, and his revelations are valuable. His use of the correspondence between Crozier, *The Manchester Guardian*'s editor in those years, and Voigt, the paper's diplomatic correspondent, is fair to both men. It is also of absorbing interest. That Frederick Augustus Voigt was "the greatest British political journalist of the 1930s" was true so far as international affairs were concerned. Voigt was even more a political philosopher than he was a journalist. He saw farther and more clearly than any of his fellows. (Herbert Sidebotham was a sad contrast.) Yet even so firm an anti-Nazi as Crozier felt that his responsibilities as an editor required him to rein in Voigt at times.

Leaving on one side the inanities of the first Lord Rothermere and the irresponsibility of Lord Beaverbrook, it is true there was a common strand running through the attitudes of most British newspapers towards Germany after the First World War. The Versailles Treaty troubled the British conscience. French vindictiveness heightened the feeling of guilt. The collapse of the Weimar Republic at first seemed to many the way to a fresh start. When the fresh start had gone manifestly wrong, vestiges of a desire for "fair play to Germany" remained. Whether the economic factors, both newspaper and national, were as important as Mr Gannon thinks in deciding editorial policies is doubtful. It may have been true of some newspapers that as the aim was to increase circulations, the new mass literate public, which preferred entertainment to information, had to be given what it wanted. It wanted to feel "secure and contented":

> In the case of Nazi Germany, the result was that the popular press painted it in extreme and fantastic colours. The menace of the great military parades was lost in the breathless reports of their scale and excitement. The stage-management of the Nuremberg *Parteitag* seemed more interesting than the speeches made at it. When a speech was reported, it was given crisis headlines; but the crises rarely seemed to develop, and when they did, every effort was made to underplay them. None of the popular papers, except the *Daily Mail*, actually supported or condoned Nazi Germany, but they were similarly reluctant to exacerbate international affairs by adopting a hard line towards it. Both financially and intellectually it was unwise or impossible for the British Press to adopt a strongly critical line towards Nazi Germany: the readers did not want to read it, and the intellectuals did not want to write it.

This is partly true. It is not the whole picture. If it had been, Hitler would not have inveighed against the British press as he did. The British newspapers may, with the British Government, have been "Hitler's 'fall guys'" over the so-called crisis of May, 1938. Through the years, restraint and moments of relief that what seemed possible war had been averted did not remove a widespread distrust. There was real and bitter antagonism to *The Times*'s policy. It did not arise spontaneously. Amid the doubts, the hesitations, the fears, the illusory fleeting hopes, a fundamental antagonism to Hitler was common to many British newspapers and communicated itself to large sections of the British public. Prima facie, a case for similarities of policy can be made out; below the surface the differences were great.

Mr Gannon is on his strongest ground when noting the British press's "fundamental inability to understand the potential depths of Nazi brutality". This was true of the actual depths also. The shortcoming was part of the British character. Even after six years of war the revelations of the horrors of Belsen and Buchenwald could be doubted and suspected of being propaganda. Had the reporting of Hitler's Germany from 1933 onwards been fuller, franker, more deeply probing and less concerned with hypothetical consequences, much of the leader-writing that is justly deplored today would not have been possible. The fault of the British press between the wars was that some papers misconceived, and others failed in, the primary duty of journalists.

Anatomical varieties

JOSEPH CHIARI:
Britain and France, The Unruly Twins
128pp. Vision. £1.80.

Joseph Chiari, already the author of some nineteen books, is a Frenchman who has spent most of his life in this country. He has often reflected upon the similarities and differences that exist between Britain and France and between the British and the French. His deep knowledge of their literature and languages makes him an ideally interesting person to do this, and even when he is playing the old game of comparing supposed national characters, he does this with assurance and subtlety. For example, he presents us with two simple and everyday aphorisms which express similar ideas but which, since they are framed in different terms, seem to illustrate certain vital aspects of the English and French character. When an Englishman is in trouble he endeavours to keep a stiff upper lip. When a Frenchman is in trouble he concerns himself with another part of his anatomy, "il serre les fesses". In other words, the Englishman in trouble is concerned with appearances and with decorum, and although he may inwardly feel distress he is anxious not to show this. This, we are told, is part of the control of emotions which is a basic tenet of the English educational system. On the other hand, the Frenchman is concerned not with appearances, but with a biological fact which consists in avoiding a possibly disastrous relaxation of muscular tension. The Frenchman is concerned with what the individual thinks himself, not what others think of him. From here we go to the well-known individualism of the French and the group and social consciousness of the English.

Similarly, when the Englishman wishes to indicate that it is unwise to try to do what one cannot do, he might say "one should not bite off more than one can chew". The Frenchman, if he is able to speak freely, will say simply, "il ne faut pas essayer de péter plus haut que son derrière". That is to say, that the Englishman conveys moral judgment and the suggestion that with care one can learn how to bite off the right amount, thus remaining experimental and believing that control of the will is the basis of morality. The Frenchman, on the other hand, demonstrates his belief that the human body is the basis of man's relationship with the universe, an attitude that may well have a connexion with Catholicism, which recognizes the importance of the senses and of the body more readily than Protestantism, which tends to look askance at them. The French aphorism also demonstrates the faith in mathematical truth and abstraction which is an important part of the French make-up.

Naturally, one can object to Dr Chiari's analysis. It can be argued that in reality he is only demonstrating that French is more picturesque in its slang than English, so that while Englishmen are reduced to saying that someone "is picking his nose", Frenchmen are able to say "il décroche ses tableaux". It can be maintained, too, that the whole operation is pointless and that national characteristics are not to be teased out by such methods. Indeed it could be argued that the most revealing aspect of this game is that it is so popular among French writers and commentators.

But what is important is to suggest that Dr Chiari is dangerously wrong in some of his observations and may have an outdated impression of both the English and the French. Can it still be said that cricket is the English national game? Is the education provided by the public schools the same as it was in the days of the Empire? Do the English prefer to be ruled by men of character rather than men of intellect, and is the English civic sense as great as it was? We could all have a great deal to say about this, just as when Dr Chiari tells us that there is more sentimentality in England than there is in France, one is tempted to refer him to the popular French weeklies, to the declarations made by French footballers and cyclists in their frequent moments of emotion, or even to the recent statement by the President that he hates having to say "no". In other words, in this age of sociological observation and analysis, Dr Chiari's ruminations are perhaps more stimulating than convincing. It is not clear that he is familiar with the young, affluent, competitive, and intensely commercial society that now exists in France. Does he, one wonders, watch French television?

Much the same could be said about the chapters in which he seeks to compare the literature of the two countries. From time to time there are remarks which are most perceptive; from time to time there are judgments which are unacceptable, as when he writes: "The great revolution, which had started in the name of liberty, equality and fraternity, was in the end taken over by the middle classes." But, often enough, Dr Chiari has not allowed himself enough space to examine the problems in depth.

Thus, one closes this short book with some disappointment. But the essence of the disappointment is that Dr Chiari has not written more and not given us more examples of his neat wit and wide-ranging knowledge. There is a great deal of wisdom in these brief pages.

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Trouble in the pipeline

GEORGE W. STOCKING:
Middle East Oil
485pp. Allen Lane The Penguin Press. £6.25.

For economists who take the broadest view the problem of the relationship between developed and underdeveloped countries is the most important of our time. In general, the nature of the relationship is such that not only are the rich already provocatively rich as compared to the poor but the gap tends to get wider. The vision of Marx a century ago which saw the capitalists growing fewer and wealthier and the proletariat more numerous and more depressed is being realized in relationships between nations after being disproved among social classes.

One explanation commonly given of this phenomenon concerns the nature of the commercial relationship. A rich man can do a better deal than a poor man, because he can afford not to do a deal at all; the technologically advanced will have the advantage of the less advanced, because he can if need be supply himself in an alternative way with what the latter has to offer; the more capital intensive product will rise in price faster than the raw material, and so underdeveloped countries, which are poor, technologically backward and have to offer raw materials, will suffer inferior and always worsening terms of trade.

International conferences are arranged by the United Nations to deal with this problem. If the consumption in developed countries of tea, coffee, chocolate, tobacco or sweets is to be taxed, should not the proceeds go to the producers of the raw materials? One way of correcting the injustice of the market-place would be to reallocate tax receipts; but in practice the governments are only a little more altruistic than the commercial entities, and the conferences do not get very far.

The progressive pauperization of raw-material-producing countries might seem to be a law of economics and too strong to be resisted, were it not for the exception of those that produce petroleum. Some of these have moved, within a quarter of a century, from a state of abject poverty to one of having the highest per capita incomes in the world, and the reason is not hard to find. The demand for oil, in its scale and rate of growth, has been such that those engaged in the industry have been able to grow rich themselves, to pay the underdeveloped suppliers well and still leave with the consumer a large surplus. At any time in the past quarter of a century, one may guess, it would have been possible to double the selling price of oil products without causing more than a temporary slackening in the growth of consumption. There is still no substitute in sight, no reduction in demand. The oil industry is the world's jackpot, and all concerned with it have been and will continue to be handsomely rewarded.

Middle East Oil is an account of relations between oil companies, which have been the representatives of developed countries, and the underdeveloped countries in that part of the world which holds the greatest oil reserves. George W. Stocking has many of the more important qualifications for his task. He is a professional economist. He has worked in the Middle East and he has served in the United States Government, inter alia as a consultant on oil and as an adviser in the field of collective bargaining with the domestic trade unions, a field that has certain points in common with the bargaining that goes on between oil companies and oil-producing states. Finally, he has worked in the industry.

The oil industry is wealthy and its documentation is formidable. Professor Stocking was fired to his task, which has involved long labours with these documents, by the experience of attending the Second Arab Petroleum Congress, held while he was a visiting professor at the American University in Beirut in 1960:

> My familiarity with the oil industry covers a span of more than half a century intermittently as employee, student, author and government regulator. But I was unprepared for the hostility, bitterness and suspicions manifested by Congress spokesmen for the host countries or the feeling of insecurity, uncertainty and resentment manifested by representatives of the oil industry.

Since Professor Stocking completed his book, the oil-producing countries have gained a very large increase in their revenues, after a confrontation with the companies which had many people extremely frightened. This does seem to have produced some improvement in the atmosphere; even in the case of Iraq there are moves towards settlement of the backlog of unresolved disputes with the Iraq Petroleum Company. But one can already see signs that the goodwill, bought with so much cash, is temporary. Suspicion and distrust have been the usual concomitant of relations between oil companies and producer states, and it is to be feared that they will return.

To some extent, the causes are to be found in history. *Middle East Oil* describes the main events in company/government relationships from Persia's concession to William Knox d'Arcy in 1901 to negotiations with the Organization of Oil Producing States (OPEC) in the 1960s. In this period the political relationship between the oil-producing states and the developed countries changed. The British Empire reached its zenith in 1919 with the acquisition of the mandate for Mesopotamia. At that time Persia appeared, from Downing Street, to be the missing link in the connexion with India. "We cannot permit", Lord Curzon minuted, "the existence between the frontiers of our Indian Empire . . . and those of our new Protectorate, of a hotbed of misrule, enemy intrigue, financial chaos and political disorder."

When a territory was, or might be expected to become, a part of the British Empire, the British oil companies negotiated concessions of a certain character in respect to extent, duration and financial conditions that would not be appropriate now; the United States Government insisted that American oil companies should participate on the same terms and the French Government did the same for its own interests. Some of the concessions negotiated in the climate of those days remain to embarrass company/government relations today. The companies base their case on the sanctity of contracts freely arrived at. The governments do not admit that their predecessors who signed those contracts were free, and in view of the political changes it has had to be admitted that the terms of 1919 are inappropriate today. For the most part they have been scrapped, but the memory remains as an embarrassment—as is the precedent of contracts changed in response to political pressure.

There is also the issue of sovereignty. Lawyers have never been able to explain how sovereign powers can be subject to law. The United Nations has particularly recognized the "Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources". Any state may, by due processes of its own law, relieve itself of contractual obligations that have ceased to be convenient to it. In the present year the Shah of Persia threatened to do precisely this, and the threat was efficacious. The oil companies did not challenge his right and they met his demands to avoid the embarrassment of having to watch him exercising it.

Shaky though it is, the pattern of contractual relationships is valued by both parties and it has stood up to some severe storms. Again and again Professor Stocking has to describe intricate negotiations between experts which, after months and even years of legal discussion, blow up into political rows. Contracts have been repudiated, irreconcilable positions publicly taken up and aid invoked from Russia or China. Yet on so many occasions these explosions have settled down: the lawyers have gone back to the table and new contracts have been agreed.

The resemblance of the relationship between oil companies and oil states to that between employers and trade unions consists in a mutual sense of expertise. To the outsider the values are not understandable. Why should a trade union contract repudiated after five months cause so much offence, when they are regularly repudiated after ten? Why should a contract which the signatories bind themselves to honour for five years last longer than one apparently valid in perpetuity? The participants understand the nuances and those outside can only hope that they know their business. A relationship of this kind does not, however, usually include the bitterness and depth of distrust that Professor Stocking and others have noticed between oil companies and oil states.

In the Middle East there are many complicating factors. The Arab states have their own domestic problems, exacerbated by the pressure of Israel. Geographically they lie between the states of the Pax Americana and of the Centrally Planned Economies. These are perhaps reasons enough to expect some disturbance, but they are also n for looking very carefully a commercial relationship which b this region to the West: fo commercial relationship is no that remains.

Quite simply, the Middle E states are convinced that they been underpaid for their product many years, and this is a conte that economists trained in the lib school, as is Professor Stocking, difficult to understand. In his c ter on prices he notes that Mid East oil is cheap to produce, b profits on producing it have b large. They are bound to att new producers, an increase in sup and falling prices. "It is unlik he concludes, "that despite OPE efforts, except for short periods downward trend of prices will b be reversed." Other liberal eco mists have come to the same con sion. It is the logic of the mar place, and market-orientated eco mists are inhibited by their trai from thinking what might achieved if there were to be f freedom.

Put the matter another way. is an essential fuel and raw mate for developed economies. It might priced considerably higher than is now before the alternatives, wh are coal and nuclear power, bec competitive to a degree that w check the growth in oil consu tion. There is a large "consum surplus", meaning that consu would pay more than the pre prices before they preferred t without. It is possible that the nomists of the Middle East, wh also trained in the liberal s would accept the logic of the ket economy if it were accep both sides and oil products we at prices approximating to ma costs of production in the ma of the developed countries. B fact nobody advocates this. The companies from Rockefeller's onwards have recognized that restricted price competition ruin the industry.

The governments of devel countries rely heavily on the tion of oil products for their rev and the consumers are more c cerned about regularity of s than about price. The pro states are entitled to consider a higher price might be paid for raw material. It is for them a timate objective of policy to at to their own coffers not only a of the profits of the companies also a part of the tax revenues the governments of developed co tries and of the "consumers' s plus". The oil companies may mightily and complain that they being squeezed out of their ca but they should recognize that th are front men only. Behind the are more substantial parties, and is these that the Arab econo have in mind when they comp so persistently that their product underpriced.

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Growing up

GORDON WRIGLEY:
Tropical Agriculture
376pp. Faber and Faber. £4.50

"From his experiences in trop agriculture which have carried to the West Indies, Africa and nearby Islands, India, Ceylon the Far East, Central and So America, the author has dis description of the factors that ence it as a whole. Its thes increased production but not a expense of long-term fertility admirably illustrated." (TLS tember 22, 1961.)

"Crop improvement and protection have advanced tropical farming, and have what has been called the "green lution" during a very They get a full assessment considerably enlarged edition is now a standard work

The problems of purity

CHRISTA WOLF:
The Quest for Christa T
Translated by Christopher Middleton
185pp. Hutchinson. £1.75.

The Quest for Christa T (the German original of which was reviewed in the *TLS* of July 24, 1969) is a search through obsessive memories. From a random array of images, episodes and even epiphanies, the narrator, Christa's friend, attempts to assemble a biography of the kind of insignificant yet remarkable person whose gifts and idiosyncrasies, minor tragedies and simple achievements would not normally be recorded. It is a posthumous tribute, and this is what may attract some readers and vex others. For the tone of these evocations ranges from reverential hagiography to near-kitsch (as memories of a lost close friend can do).

After her own relentless quest for herself, Christa T., a victim of leukemia, left behind a series of notes about her life, and these, together with the narrator's memories, reawaken the past. Yet the modest outlines of Christa T.'s life, at school during the Third Reich, and later as a teacher, wife and friend in East Germany, do not add up to the novel's *raison d'être*. The justification — "because it seems that we need her" — comes as a challenge to the reader, as it was for the narrator. We need to hear of Christa T. partly in order to appreciate the wondrous quality of life; for she had something of a child's innocence in a calculating world. Yet Christa's concern with "the difficulty of saying 'I'", together with the narrator's undermotivated sympathy for her, suggests that she reflects something of the potential purity in all of us. She thereby also reveals the resentments and the double-edged quality of uncompromising idealism. We need Christa T., it would seem, not only as a guide to our better selves, but to teach us of the need for adjustment to reality.

Christa T.'s "dangerous wish for a pure and terrible perfection" makes her a restless youthful idealist and later a discontented wife and citizen of the GDR—a character "to whom we cannot apply a single one of the laudatory words which our time and we ourselves have quite justifiably produced. Although one or two of them might suit her a little . . .". In endowing her heroine with these elusive characteristics, Christa Wolf bypasses the clichés of her culture, but not its central concern. There is respect for such an individual as Christa T. and yet an awareness of her faults.

Christa's T.'s avowed fear of imprecision, of the ineptness of words, places a clear burden of responsibility upon the narrator—and, of course, the translator—of this work. Gestures of *Sprachskepsis* (because words "do harm, the insidious harm of bypassing life") are tokens of a political dilemma, too; they heighten the old tensions between humanist and bureaucratic socialism, visible nowhere more readily than in the abuse of language. In a situation beset with such difficulties, it is not surprising that both narrator and translator perforce compromise more often than Christa T. herself. At times the magic of her personality is baldly stated rather than felt. Or the extent to which she is bound to her particular region proves sheerly untranslatable. Still, this is a remarkable novel, not merely because it deviates from the prescribed ideological pattern, a fact which has earned it an inflated reputation in the West and a difficult passage in the East, but because it respects the delicacy of individual personality despite threatening restraints. We should be grateful to Christopher Middleton for bringing it to the English public in such a sensitive and at time ingenious translation.

Two for the road

VIOLETTE LEDUC:
Le Taxi
99pp. Paris: Gallimard. 14fr.

In this brief and moving prose-poem Violette Leduc shows that she is more versatile than many people thought, and by no means "incapable of seeing anything except in relationship to herself". She has taken time off from writing the third volume of her autobiography—which is to follow *La bâtarde* and *La folie en tête*—to produce this modern myth, a work of pure poetic imagination.

The book is entirely in dialogue, and dialogue of the most elliptical nature. Gradually the story emerges of an adolescent brother and sister who have discovered their classic, eternal, old-fashioned love for each other and who decide to spend one day, and one day only, making love. They will not commit heroic suicide afterwards, but return to their adjoining rooms in their parents' flat and carry on their lives as before.

The magic of Violette Leduc's writing is such that her story creates its own atmosphere to such an extent that the reader is gently conditioned into accepting the grotesque way in which this sixteen-year-old brother and his fourteen-year-old sister prepare for, and live, their unique day of love. They become incest apart—a contemporary Daphnis and Chloe, Tristan and Isolde, Aucassin and Nicolette. These nameless children, from a nameless background, rob their Aunt Marie of her sapphires and emeralds and spend some of the proceeds on paying Cylise and Dane, a woman and man from the pavements of Pigalle, to initiate them severally, over some three months, into the art of love. This in preparation for "le grand tour" when, with the rest of Tante Marie's money, they will bribe a taxi driver to convey them, with drawn blinds and a hamper full of champagne, *pâté truffé* and other exotic foods, from one Paris landmark to another, while they make love in the back of his cab.

It works: it is touching and believable—and only a poet will be able to translate it into English

At half-rooster

GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ:
No One Writes to the Colonel
Translated by J. S. Bernstein
170pp. Cape. £1.50.

Roosters, presumably, roost; which is why this translation of *No One Writes to the Colonel* fails to come off. The original was about a colonel and the fighting cock with which he hoped to recoup his shattered fortunes. The mistranslation (Americanization?) of this vital word transforms a symbol of fight and esistance into a triviality. Who, after ll, is going to get excited over a domestic fowl? This and the generlly wooden translation (when, in iving memory, has anyone written entences like "the wife was chagined"?) make it hard to recover he force of the original.

Written before *One Hundred ears of Solitude*, this novella is ne of García Márquez's best works, fable on one of his favourite hemes that of the disparity etween human potential and society that cuts people own and trivializes them. nce a revolutionary fighter, the olonel has for fifteen years been aiting for a letter which will bring h a promised pension. Meanwhile and his wife pawn their goods and arve with fierce dignity. The remote wn in which the colonel lives is in power of his political enemies. son has been killed, leaving as sole memento the underground sistance movement and the fightcock.

ncluded with this novella are a mber of short stories, including g Mama's Funeral", the title story of a collection which García Márquez published in 1961. Big Mama is a kind of Botero monster whose death brings the Pope hurrying to her funeral, camping on his journey among the "tangled reeds and the silent bogs which marked the boundary between the Roman Empire and the ranches of Big Mama". This fantastic division of the world is an amusing anticipation of *One Hundred Years of Solitude*.

Gone slumming

MOIRA BURGESS:
The Day Before Tomorrow
174pp. Collins. £1.50.

The Day Before Tomorrow is both a story of sex murder and a sentimentally naturalistic attempt to evoke the lives of the denizens of Claggans, an imaginary slum district of Glasgow. Claggans is in the process of demolition and an atmosphere of disappearing ways of life and emerging new counterparts hangs heavily in the summer dust of what's left.

This is obviously an important subject, and as is well known one that Scottish writers have been conspicuously unable to render successfully. If Miss Burgess's first novel can be used as an indication of what is wrong, the answer seems to be that they have the wrong relationship to this difficult, but crucial, material. Miss Burgess certainly has. She describes and evokes the dark Glasgow ambiance, but the impact of this is unimpressive, and her writing is no match for so complex an environment, which she simplifies with almost bewildering ease. Realism of the order certainly needed here just cannot be achieved without writing from the inside; Miss Burgess's experience, like that of so many writers in this context, is limited to observation or employment (in her case as a librarian) among the streets and lives she tries to dramatize.

The true role of a writer in this situation *is* as an observer, as a reporter, but the subjective position should be clearly stated. Sympathy, so necessary to begin with, has led Miss Burgess (and other writers) to try to convey domestic slum scenes with what seems a quite inadequate knowledge of the real thing. Even Miss Burgess's method of trying to write two ways at once by imposing a formal murder story on the naturalistic description of one week of a few characters' lives might almost be taken as an admission that she didn't have the experience to sustain a properly naturalistic account. What has in fact resulted is a view of the Claggans from its local public library—incomplete, yielding too easily to an almost gratuitous pathos, and insufficiently documentary. Though readable and interesting, Miss Burgess unfortunately seems to believe the blurb writer's description of Claggans as a "strange half-world". This is certainly what she has given us. But to the people who live there it is a whole world, and it's all they've got.

Dharma busters

TERENCE WHEELER:
From Home in Heaven
236pp. Macmillan. £2.10

From Home in Heaven is Terence Wheeler's second novel and, like his first, *The Conjunction*, it has an Indian setting—Jaimer City, in the Northern Province, where there are "no houses, only strongholds". In this dauntingly respectable town, the most impregnable "fortress" is occupied by the Mohorwals, an extended family of merchants, insulated from the world by joint assets and the traditional Hindu notion of *dharma*, or family destiny. But the influence of the modern world impinges all the same, as Raghunath Mohorwal realizes all too clearly when he returns from a courtroom in Delhi, where his younger brother Tarkeshwar has been sentenced to prison for misappropriation of funds from a farm co-op owned by the family. In the face of this family dishonour, the *dharma* cannot hold: Raghunath's desperate sister, Devika, is found sleeping with the servants; her clever but defiant son, Mukhul, is seen participating in demonstrations outside the family residence; and Raghunath's favourite nephew, Arjun, announces that he is leaving home to go to Bombay and get married

Still more threatening to Raghunath's traditionalist assumptions is the arrival, at the family's invitation, of Devika's onetime husband, Goswami, who deserted her when Mukhul was a baby to become a Marxist-orientated travelling mystic. Over the years, Goswami has attracted a popular following in the region—much to Raghunath's disgust. Now he returns to set up a meditation centre in a house they have set aside for this purpose. Raghunath has acquiesced unwillingly in the decision to subsidize these dubious activities, which include the setting up of a utopian village community nearby. Now he is obliged to watch while this "gratuitous guru" goes to work, sweeping away (quite literally) spiritual inertia in the family, albeit with varying degrees of success. Eventually Arjun, torn between the attraction of "normal" married life in the city and the mystical exigencies of the guru, can stand the confusion no longer and kills himself.

Raghunath now intervenes; by joint decision, he and his brothers close the meditation centre and cut off Goswami's funds. The guru threatens to fast to death unless the decision is rescinded. But Raghunath stands firm, once again forced to accept the detested role of chief decision-maker and custodian of the *dharma*.

The author tends to set his scenes in a "to the dawn" declamatory style, and the early events of his narrative are put in train a little ponderously; but, with the introduction of the guru he appears to find second wind, as though like his characters he cannot remain impervious to the heady urgency of the man. At this point the arcane family rituals ("the *danse macabre* of extortion and payment") open out into an arena where more broadly identifiable moral conflicts are debated, and we are treated to a pithier and more relaxed view of the protagonists. Even Raghunath's crumbling dream of escape from the clamour of responsibility manages finally to seem oddly sympathetic.

Below the waterline

CAROLINE GLYN:
The Tower and the Rising Tide
122pp. Gollancz. £1.50.

Alastair, eighteen and irritable, feels trapped in a world of "nothing much", as a result of a series of betrayals. He is conscious not only of being "out of step" with his parents, to whose purposeful world he half-wishes to belong, but also of having failed his girl-friend Susi, who, he finally sees, was engaged in the same search for true identity as himself.

Fragile and neurotic, Susi is haunted by the conviction of her own death and by the face of Christ. She disappears after Alastair's final failure to join in her questioning and Alastair, made to realize her importance to him, finally follows her to Germany. He finds she has died, having fulfilled her (Christian) vision and enabling him to achieve his own. While he has taken photographs she has painted—and given, not grabbed.

Running parallel to this tale, and continually interrupting it as a kind of parable commentary, are the scenes of Alastair's early childhood. This is the setting of his original self-betrayal and here the symbols dominating his adolescence—the gleaming tower of challenge and promise, the tide of darkness constantly but necessarily threatening to overcome him—have their roots in well-observed particular incidents. The sense of a child's patterning of things into significance carries more conviction than their later refinement. A certain smugness sets in with the adult reflections: the honey-feel of the child's enclosed world turns into the cosiness of being "a lover of beauty and goodness and all the lovely true old things" and into the rhetorical vagueness of Alastair's poetic composition: "The poetry came through me again, thundering, flooding."

In darkest London

THOMAS BLACKBURN:
The Feast of the Wolf
158pp. MacGibbon and Kee. £1.70.

"Lesbian phobia" is the "lethal parasite" on Professor Simon Armstrong's mind, and it becomes tangible as a vampire-beast which leaves the mind of his body to take its own shape and feast on Stella, his second wife. Not even the writing of poetry, or a book on *The Cult of the Vampire*, is enough to exorcise the demon. As a tale of psychic terror this is arresting enough, but Mr Blackburn has been skating on thin autobiographical ice. The novel is badly mixed up. Sometimes it is an academic farce, sometimes a satirical attack on literary/university London, and sometimes a poetical exploration of dark mind-scapes. This conglomeration of different scenes, none of which actually helps the others, seriously damages the novel, although there are some good moments.

In fact, it is the comic episodes in this short novel of psychological disaster that are best. There is a bachelor professor Johnson Day, a lurid Soho drinking club scene, and a disastrous lecture trip to Aberdeen disguised here as Northborough. At this point Mr Blackburn goes through the ice. The poem which his poet and professor Simon writes in the bar after the lecture crops up in Mr Blackburn's own new book of poems (*The Fourth Man*) as "Aberdeen".

On the whole, Mr Blackburn's manner is unattractive, not only for his curious messing about with fact and fiction, but for the tediously scientific/mystical views of life his characters believe in and which Mr Blackburn appears to believe also. There is an almost frightening absence of normal, everyday domestic feelings either of love, fondness, or just sheer routine. Life is not, even in literary London, as murky as this. Mr Blackburn's novel is a self-fascinated, bitter tract.

In progress

ROBERT ROSENBLUM:
Frank Stella
62pp.

CHRISTOPHER FINCH:
Patrick Caulfield
64pp.

DAVID THOMPSON:
Robyn Denny
64pp.
Penguin. Paperback, 90p each.

The first feeling aroused by these excellent little books, the first three volumes in the "Penguin New Art" series, is one of nostalgia. How important the old "Penguin Modern Painters" series seemed to us back in the 1950s. Who, brought up on them, will ever forget the Nash, the Sutherland, the Pasmore volumes? The situation now in art-book publishing is, of course, very different: on the one hand, inexpensive series such as Thames and Hudson's "World of Art Library"; on the other, the lavishly produced monograph. In this changed and vastly competitive climate, what does "Penguin New Art" provide? A halt on the way between art-school manifesto and full-scale monograph, apparently; much, in fact, like "The Penguin Modern Poets" series.

What of the volumes under review? The standard of printing, production and layout is more than one would ask for the price elsewhere. The books are well researched, well written; the authors well chosen—one looks forward particularly to Lawrence Alloway on Richard Hamilton and Barbara Rose on Andy Warhol—as are, within certain limitations, the subjects themselves. They fall into two distinct categories: innovators who are already part of a "new establishment", like Frank Stella or Hamilton; and younger artists in mid-career who have settled down to a personal procedure they are unlikely to change, as with Patrick Caulfield and Robyn Denny here. The wisdom of devoting a small monograph to artists of this latter kind is, perhaps, debatable. Young artists in this position are often prisoners both of their own style and of the gallery system.

Indeed, one might say that if the series has a fault, it is just this: that the choice of artists is an exact reflection of the Madison Avenue - Museum of Modern Art - Bond Street - Tate - and - Hayward axis. No Continental artists. Nobody who is not obviously a sculptor or painter. The nearest thing to mixed media in the projected titles is the work of the fluorescent-light sculptor Dan Flavin, and perhaps also Claes Oldenburg. All, without exception, are "commodity-makers", well established with commercial galleries—"New Art" these days is often not to be found in galleries or museums. One further qualification: in a situation where most potential buyers of these books are aware, in general terms, of what the artist's recent work is about, it would be helpful to have a little more information concerning their early work. In David Thompson's volume on Denny, for instance, there could well be rather more documentation about the period at the Royal College and after, when he and Smith were involved with the "Situation" exhibitions.

Worthy, then; but perhaps a little dull so far. If "Penguin New Art" could lose its inhibitions, it could well occupy the kind of position the earlier series did in the 1940s and 1950s.

Like father, like son

MICHAEL AYRTON:
Giovanni Pisano
Introduction by Henry Moore.
248pp. 370 plates. Thames and Hudson. £5.25.

The appearance of a book in English on any Italian sculptor other than Donatello or Michelangelo ought to be an occasion for rejoicing. When the sculptor in question is as important as Giovanni Pisano and the writers are themselves celebrated practitioners in the same field, one expects a stimulating insight into the individual and into the art as a whole. The book is elegantly presented, sensible in format and easy to handle; while the photographs, specially taken by Ilario Bessi under the guidance of Henry Moore, instantly whet one's appetite for the promised aesthetic feast.

The author's intention in writing on Giovanni Pisano is honestly avowed in the opening words of the preface: "This book is intended to be the tribute paid by two sculptors to a great forerunner." A tribute it may be, but can it at the same time claim to be the "new critical and biographical monograph . . . fully illustrated and documented" announced on the dustjacket? Perhaps the carefully chosen expression "tribute" is meant to excuse the almost embarrassingly personal approach to Giovanni Pisano adopted in Henry Moore's introduction and Michael Ayrton's preface, where we read of their respective first encounters with his work.

It would of course be blissfully convenient if one could write a serious appreciation of his sculpture

> avoiding, as far as possible, lengthy participation in the vexed controversies whereby established scholars prove themselves, as to the exact distribution of hands, the degree to which a given marble is the product of the master alone or was carved with assistance from his workshop, and whence exactly he drew the sources of his style.

But Mr Ayrton's attempt to do so commits him irrevocably to a purely subjective assessment based on dubious premises (perhaps this is how one is supposed to interpret a "tribute"?). While in a lecture or in an essay this might have been permissible, in a full-length book it is unacceptable.

One need only examine the professed "core of the book", chapter four, devoted to the sculptures for the outside of the Baptistry at Pisa, to see how fallacious this simplicist approach can be. The series of full and half-length statues have so affected both Mr Moore and Mr Ayrton at various moments in their careers that they decided ultimately to write the present book, celebrating their spontaneous reactions to them. Were they known to have been carved by Giovanni Pisano this might have been all very well, but as even Mr Ayrton is forced to admit in a moment of scholarly candour: "Once again, and for the last time, the division of labour between Giovanni and his father remains in question. Nicola is known to have worked on external sculpture for the Baptistry in 1265 and some authorities tentatively ascribe many of the colossi to Nicola."

Now the question of the authorship of these sculptures is one of the most difficult that confronts any student of the Pisani, and it is no solution to brush the problem under the carpet with an *ex parte* statement of belief that they "breathe the spirit of Giovanni". To most observers they do not, with one or two exceptions. In any case, to give this series of severely weathered pieces of doubtful authorship a pivotal place in an assessment of Giovanni Pisano is certainly to beg the question. The credibility gap widens when it is noticed that of the set of thirty pieces only two are discussed in detail, despite the adulation with which they are regarded by Mr Ayrton and Mr Moore; and these two are patently selected for their fortuitous correspondence in subject with Michelangelo's two most celebrated statues, the "David" and the "Moses". A tendentious comparison between the interpretations said to be offered by the two great sculptors occupies half of this four-page chapter, without admitting that there is absolutely no known connexion between the four figures in question.

Again, when we reach the chapter devoted to Giovanni's pulpit for Pisa Cathedral and the discussion turns to the knotty problem of the degree of participation of workshop assistants in the actual carving, the witticisms of a practising artist at the expense of a related but theoretical discipline are hardly edifying: "Art historians cannot take into account that such simple factors as a touch of rheumatics or eye-strain on a Monday may cause the hand to slip or the master's critical judgment to be blind." On the contrary, any connoisseur should be supremely aware of the logical pitfalls surrounding the notional distribution of works between a master and his workshop assistants purely on the grounds of qualitative distinctions.

Finally, a long-discredited fallacy is propounded in defence of Mr Ayrton's impatience of what he evidently regards as pedantic art-historical argument:

> Those whose familiarity with such matters extends no further than their eyes, their photographic archives and their typewriters seldom have experience in this technical field and even if one does not have to be a hen to tell a bad egg, a cognisance of oviparous generation is useful on the farm.

Of course, one might retort that the book is a personal tribute and does not pretend to be anything more: nevertheless, the word "monograph" does suggest the qualities of a definitive reference work. Fu[illegible] more, the book has all the [illegible] of such a work, even down to [illegible] called "catalogue raisonné". [illegible] this is nothing more than a b[illegible] of sculptures illustrated wi[illegible] photographs, including [illegible] visible differentiation all the [illegible] of dubious authorship men[illegible] above. It should have bee[illegible] function of a catalogue raisonn[illegible] make precisely such a differentia[illegible] so that the reader might ascert[illegible] status of any piece without diff[illegible]

After Mr Ayrton's claim t[illegible] understanding of technique b[illegible] the grasp of an historian of [illegible] could be hoped that *Giovanni P*[illegible] would be redeemed by an expo[illegible] of this expertise. Disappoin[illegible] Henry Moore's only contribu[illegible] the text is limited to his five[illegible] introduction. His comments o[illegible] technique of marble carving are [illegible] minating, but tantalizingly brie[illegible] generalized: how much one [illegible] have appreciated a detailed an[illegible] of technical factors as they app[illegible] an individual work, perhaps c[illegible] tioning its form or style. Stra[illegible] enough, there is a noticeable ab[illegible] of discussion of particular s[illegible] tures, which is paradoxical whe[illegible] might have been the greatest [illegible] of a study written by sculptors [illegible] a sculptor.

Mr Ayrton shows [illegible] thoroughly conversant with [illegible] documents on which any acco[illegible] the artist's career must rest an[illegible] plays an acquaintance with con[illegible] porary religious thought as it aff[illegible] the intellectual programmes of [illegible] elaborate complexes of sc[illegible] that Giovanni was called up[illegible] design, ranging from the op[illegible] fountain in Perugia and the [illegible] façade of Siena Cathedral [illegible] famous pulpits at Pistoia and [illegible] which so spectacularly devel[illegible] father's earlier ones in Pis[illegible] Siena. What he neglects to p[illegible] is a coherent picture of [illegible] Giovanni's style developed fro[illegible] sculpture to the next and from [illegible] project to the next. Many of the [illegible] cellent plates are given no more [illegible] a brief caption: for instance, [illegible] third chapter, where the Fo[illegible] Maggiore in Perugia is described, [illegible] stylistic implications of the [illegible] panels in low relief and twenty[illegible] angle figures carved almost in [illegible] round are totally ignored, alth[illegible] all are conveniently reproduc[illegible] the adjoining block of plates [illegible] one resorts to the notes to the [illegible] in the hope of illumination, [illegible] once again met with a bald [illegible] titles.

This kind of lacuna in the stru[illegible] of the book and the author's fa[illegible] to come to grips with fundame[illegible] problems in distinguishing the s[illegible] and spirit of Giovanni Pisano f[illegible] those of his equally gifted fa[illegible] Nicola render this study at the [illegible] a fatally flawed monograph and [illegible] the best an uneven tribute to [illegible] greatest sculptor of the Go[illegible] period in Italy.

What's going on

HOWARD DANIEL:
Encyclopaedia of Themes and Subjects in Painting
252pp. Thames and Hudson. £2.10 (paperback, £1.25).

Explaining the story in the compositions of painters is not so much to provide a key to works that would otherwise be completely incomprehensible, as to restate the elements of a problem for which the artist has given his solution in terms of colour, form and imaginative design. Howard Daniel's compilation is valuable in this respect. He concisely explains nearly 400 of the subjects that have recurred most frequently in Western painting, from medieval times to the nineteenth century, mainly religious and mythological, accompanying the text with appropriate illustrations. "Themes" and "subjects" are words of wide scope, and there may well have been some difficulty in deciding where to stop. It was reasonable that portraiture, still-life and genre should be excluded as not requiring the same kind of exegesis as incidents taken from biblical history and classical legend, though a few subjects other than biblical or classical are listed when an artist has given them an extra significance.

"Montagne Sainte-Victoire", for example, comes in, and though it is not without interest that the name commemorates an obscure victory in the first century BC, the obvious reason is that the mountain was Cézanne's personal and particular subject. The nature of an historical moment has sometimes been so vividly conveyed by a master that the event and its pictorial treatment become inseparable. Goya's scene of Peninsular War massacre, "The Third of May, 1808", is one of several listed—to which Picasso's "Guernica" might have been added.

Yet the entries with nineteenth-century illustration are few and the twentieth-century instances are nil—which brings into consideration the disquiet expressed by John Berger in his introduction. Is it justifiable to say, as he does, that the need for such a work of reference as this "indicates that the pictorial tradition to which the paintings belong is no longer vital"? It is patent that there is no modern Van Dyck to paint "St Ambrose reproving Maximus", no modern Poussin to depict "The Triumph of Neptune and Amphitrite". But if we are to assume that such paintings can now only be viewed at a distance and across a gulf as so much lifeless matter appertaining to history, the statement is all too sweeping.

A great many paintings have manifestly outlived what Mr Berger calls "the fantasies of the ruling class in different periods". A look through the reproductions with which the encyclopedia is richly provided is reassuring about the continued vitality of works in which, though the subject may now be obscure, the personality of the artist is as strong a force as ever. The requirement of a painting of Early Christian martyrdom for a dignitary of the church or of a scene from Ovid for a Renaissance prince did not automatically create a work of art; this was the painter's contribution. That the easel picture (the main vehicle of subject) is now outdated and that no new "social function" has been found to take its place is the introduction's somewhat gloomy conclusion.

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Influences on an island

TONY SPITERIS:
The Art of Cyprus
Translated by Thomas Burton
207pp. Weidenfeld and Nicolson. £12.

The art which forms the subject of this book is that produced in Cyprus between the Neolithic and Roman periods, a space of some six thousand years. It is fully illustrated with 153 plates of which sixty-one are in colour, well selected and well photographed. The total effect bears out the author's contention that Cypriot art preserves a special character of its own. The island has naturally, from its geographical position, been exposed to manifold foreign influences. It seems to have been first settled by immigrants from Anatolia, and the Neolithic and early Bronze Age cultures have parallels there. Then came the Mycenaean influx in the early fourteenth century; it is a matter of controversy whether the very large amount of Mycenaean pottery found in the island—more than anywhere else in the Mycenaean sphere of influence—was mainly imported or made on the spot, but there is no doubt of the emergence of a local style. Between 700 and 400 BC Assyrian, Phoenician and Egyptian influences are evident. Nevertheless it is easy for anyone entering a general collection of Greek vases to spot at once the products of Cyprus.

The pottery has rarely been better illustrated than here, in particular the archaic pitchers with animal and human figures in the "free-field" style. The votive statues in terracotta which are an engaging and ample feature of the same archaic period are lavishly illustrated. Cypriot sculpture is normally not up to the standard of Greek works elsewhere, but an exception must [illegible] made of the terracotta heads f[illegible] the recently discovered cenotaph [illegible] Salamis, the famous "tomb [illegible] The best is a woman's head, [illegible] provides the most striking of [illegible] coloured plates: it is very [illegible] indeed to the work of Lysippus.

The translation is excellent [illegible] the original French reads rather [illegible] rhapsodically in its English [illegible] The author sets out "to rouse [illegible] reader's curiosity and sharpen [illegible] vision, thus enabling him [illegible] an intriguing message phrased [illegible] language of all creation [illegible] of fustian to come which [illegible] redeemed. It is a pity that [illegible] text never synchronize [illegible] reference difficult; the author [illegible] not refer to all the plates [illegible] refer to some things which [illegible] illustrated. As a book [illegible] satisfying object, handsomely [illegible] clearly printed.

The dynamic in exchange for the picturesque

WALTER ALLEN (Editor):
Transatlantic Crossing
332pp. Heinemann. £4.

A British visitor to nineteenth-century America can challenge Tocqueville. Yet what American visitor to England wrote anything comparable to Lord Bryce's *The American Commonwealth*, or even Matthew Arnold's *Civilization in the United States* for that matter? Americans crossed the Atlantic mainly as tourists or diplomats; the British, mainly as migrants or lecturers. The vast, dynamic, ever-shifting republic exercised its raw fascination on one side; the picturesque vistas, within an industrial society, exercised an equally ambiguous fascination on the other. With a minimum of fuss Professor Allen has snapped his scissors, mounted his *textes choisis* (some five lines, some five pages long), and edited the great debate with seventeen stray Americans in Britain for an opening innings and nineteen footloose Britons in America to follow on.

What kind of teams has he fielded? Neither is exactly representative. On the American side, Harvard reigns supreme. Harvard alone dispatched eight of these commentators: Prescott, Parkman, Emerson, Henry Adams, James Russell Lowell, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and William and Henry James. In New England, of course, the English tie for good or ill looms closer. But with the exception of Henry James (on Derby day) this impeccable cast of Brahmins, read at a stretch, is both too predictable in general and repetitive in detail. Non-Harvard men include James Fenimore Cooper, William Cullen Bryant, Herman Melville (some staccato notes from his journal), Harriet Beecher Stowe (charmed by the Duke of Argyll), Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Joaquin Miller (in London to publish his *Songs of the Sierras*). The most illuminating, doubtless, are the most professional: the United States Consuls at Lyons and Liverpool (Cooper and Hawthorne). Both Cooper's *England* and Hawthorne's unexpurgated *English Notebooks* should win new readers on the strength of this command performance.

But it is the mosaic quality of the whole which permits the minor writers to emerge: that Regency dandy, Nathaniel Parker Willis, for example, in his high-heeled French boots on the grouse moors; or Elihu Burritt, "the learned blacksmith", as US Consul in Birmingham. From that mosaic, too, wider themes emerge: of English social proprieties, English amusements, English domestics, shocking slum conditions and—equally irresistibly—charming country houses and country hosts. Through Cooper's eyes:

> The *empressement*, the warmth, the shrug and gesture of the Parisian; and the working eye-brow, dilating or contracting eye, and conspirator-like action of the Italian, in the most common conversation, are the antipodes of English high breeding I should say a North American Indian, in his more dignified phase, approached nearer to the manner of an English nobleman than any other person.

For England does not stand alone in this American equation. The suppressed third term (in the Yankee mind) is always France.

Among British migrants—temporary, to qualify for the home side—are William Cobbett, Frances Trollope, Fanny Kemble, and Robert Louis Stevenson. But it is British women who seem to come peculiarly into their own. With Harriet Martineau and Isabella Bishop (related to Mary Kingsley) they provide the most detailed, evocative insights into frontier life and hotel life, the freedom of domestics and of young ladies, the passion for oysters, whittling, spitting, iced water and central heating. The whole scene, even before the accession of Queen Victoria—or, more pertinently, Charles Dickens's visit in 1841—as reported by Captain Basil Hall, RN, or Captain Frederick Marryat, RN, already seems set and wholly characteristic. Though Marryat, incidentally, was burned in effigy in Detroit for saying so.

What slums and country-houses were for Americans in Britain, the slave question, in all its variety, was for Britons in America. Everyone had their say. Frances Trollope observed the number of keys in constant transit, the repeated locking and unlocking in Southern homes. Fanny Kemble, who herself married the owner of a Georgia plantation, noted the nightly tocsin of bells and drums (to guard Charleston against "domestic insurrection"), the filthy ragged condition of housemaids and footmen, and the primitive horror of a Negro infirmary in "an estate where the owners are supposed to be humane, the overseer efficient and kind, and the Negroes remarkedly well cared for and comfortable". Harriet Martineau concurred:

> The profits of cotton-growing, when I was in Alabama, were thirty-five per cent. One planter whom I knew had bought fifteen thousand dollars' worth of land within two years, which he could then have sold for sixty-five thousand dollars. He expected to make, that season, fifty or sixty thousand dollars of his growing crop. It is certainly the place to become rich in; but the state of society is fearful. One of my hosts, a man of great good nature, as he shows in the treatment of his slaves, and in his family relations, had been stabbed in the back in the reading-room of the town two years before, and no prosecution was instituted. Another of my hosts carried loaded pistols for a fortnight, just before I arrived, knowing that he was lain in wait for by persons against whose illegal practices he had given information to a magistrate, whose carriage was therefore broken in pieces and thrown into the river. A lawyer with whom we were in company one afternoon was sent for to take the deposition of a dying man who had been sitting with his family in the shade, when he received three balls in the back from three men who took aim at him from behind trees.

Thackeray in Richmond had never seen "so many happy looking people" nor such queer little nigger imps: and, on the Mississippi, hearing slaves' laughter, concluded that never had Negroes "been so well off as those now in America". But they were no more fit for freedom, of course, than a ten-year-old child. And Trollope confirmed: "Any comparison between the material comfort of a Kentucky slave and an English ditcher and delver would be preposterous." The Kentucky slave was better clothed, better fed, better housed; and his price tag by 1856-58 (the dates of Thackeray's last and Trollope's first visit) was $1,200.

All this after the fantastic success of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* which, by 1860, had been translated into twenty-two languages! The less prestigious Britons were also the sharper observers: the barrister Thomas Weld, for example, in the Richmond slave market; or Thomas Hamilton, a generation earlier, in a New York school. An honest schoolmaster, even in 1830, could explain that bright and talented Negroes, equal to any boys he had ever known, were marked out for degradation and exclusion in the State of New York not "from any legislative enactment, but from the tyranny of that prejudice, which, regarding the poor black as being of inferior order, works its own fulfilment in making him so".

Thus themes in this anthology emerge which weightier compilations might bury. It provides an excellent first glimpse of the transatlantic exchange, though not exactly of either Britain or North America. For visitors tend to discover in foreign countries what they set out to find; and by the end of the nineteenth century American culture (in Arnold's notorious term) had ceased to be "*interesting*". Oscar Wilde insisted that he was charmed, in his patronizing way, by the miners of Leadville, Colorado. But Sir Henry Lepel Griffin, late of the Bengal Civil Service and future British Envoy Extraordinary to Peking, surveyed "The Great Republic"—from the slaughter-yards of Chicago to the silent honeymooners of Niagara—with sardonic eye:

> The Boston journals may announce the advent of the millennium of good taste; Messrs. James and Howells and White may set forth their poor platitudes to prove the cultured and refined sentiments of their countrymen: but the Niagara paper-mill raises its tall chimney high above the everlasting roar of the torrent to give them all the lie.

Hard times in the "hard" islands

CYNTHIA NOLAN:
Paradise, and Yet
159pp. Macmillan. £2.25.

JACK McCARTHY:
New Guinea Journeys
231pp. Hale. £1.90.

DOROTHEA TOMKINS and BRIAN HUGHES:
The Road from Gona
153pp. Angus and Robertson. £1.50.

JOHN GUTCH:
Martyr of the Islands
223pp. Hodder and Stoughton. £2.25

All these books start off with the disadvantage that it takes a lot to attract anyone to the most westerly part of the Pacific, the quintessential Melanesia. In contrast, less is needed [illegible] hold the attention in the case of [illegible]ral, southern or eastern Oceania [illegible] even northern—the zone least [illegible]tten about because of the Japan[illegible] cloak of secrecy over Micronesia, [illegible]ntained for so long) where the [illegible]ple and their customs radiate lik[illegible]ity, Tonga, Fiji, the Gilbert and [illegible]ce Islands, Tahiti, the Marquesas, [illegible]moa, the Cooks: these are the [illegible]ft" areas. Many of the groups [illegible] west of them, around the Coral [illegible]—the "hard" islands—are [illegible]led with a disagreeable past, an [illegible]congenial present and a disturbing [illegible]ure.

[illegible]ynthia Nolan's *Paradise, and* [illegible] starts off with a misconception [illegible] the title implying that New [illegible]ea could, by any realistic stan[illegible], ever be considered Paradise; [illegible]reservation "and Yet" should [illegible] been obvious before going to [illegible] massive island. She appears to [illegible] read almost nothing about it [illegible]rehand, and indeed almost [illegible]ates that nothing has been written; there is no bibliography. One [illegible] most significant facts about [illegible]war New Guinea has been the [illegible]o Cult, and the author con[illegible]s to never having heard of it. [illegible] touristic account, together with [illegible] McCarthy's *New Guinea Journeys*, falls to add significantly to our knowledge of a now over-written part of the Pacific; yet, from their different circumstances, both books should. First impressions are never to be derided. Cynthia Nolan's book is a jotting-down of these, revolving round desultory and not very coherent chats. What she does put over is colour-consciousness, not in the usual sense of this phrase but in the artistic range and depth that one would expect of the travelling companion of Sidney Nolan. The result is a series of flashes of vivid and apt impressions on the eye, if not much on the mind. She also conveys the horrendous nature of aeroplane-hopping that forms so much a part now of New Guinea peregrination, and the disadvantages of the fiercely tropical life of this part of the world. The clarity and feeling with which these are expressed leaves little more on the credit side of her subject apart from the dramatic natural phenomena of flower, insect and bird. There is less percipience where its people are concerned (only a paragraph on John Guise, the most prominent of an indigenous race on the move), almost nothing on its sultry history. The book's merit is confined to visual atmosphere; here it falls short both of Kenneth Read's *The High Valley*, published five years ago, and of the promise of the jacket, her husband's work.

Jack McCarthy starts from an entirely different basis: thirty-five years' residence. His feet are on the ground, in the swamps and jungles, but instead of gaining from this level *New Guinea Journeys* suffers from pedestrianism and, worse, from a hopelessly discursive treatment, skipping about without direction or explanation both in time and location. His own career and movements, which must be interesting, are left vague, as are the dates of events and travels. The introduction, curiously, and correctly, claims: "It has no chronological sequence or direction." His observations, few but sound, include the assertion that New Guinea contains an inordinately high proportion of "waste" in humanity, land and resources. Fairly he comments: "Man has got to the moon but in New Guinea it is beyond human capability to bring the most meagre of civilized benefits to people less than 80 miles from a main urban centre." Neither Mrs Nolan nor Mr McCarthy should be read in isolation: in their different, incomplete ways these books might complement many other works in leading to a preliminary understanding of New Guinea.

The next two books form something of a pair as they deal with mission history and events. Dorothy Tomkins and Brian Hughes have marshalled in *The Road from Gona* a history of the Anglican mission in Papua over the past eighty years. It is dominated by two traumatic periods, told with economy, partly because—at least in the first case—of the understandable difficulty in tracing eyewitness survivors. The first trauma was Japanese cruelty to Australian and English medical and teaching missionaries, men and women, mostly young, bayoneted and beheaded for the sheer sake of ferocity. Merely trying to avoid capture, unarmed, they were obliterated by the invaders after the Coral Sea battle. Murder achieved, the Japanese would jump joyfully on to their trucks, singing English songs of the First World War with "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" as top of their pops. As if the war in this area had not brought enough disaster, only five years after the end of it—buildings rebuilt, missions of health and education restored—the side of the volcano, Mount Lamington, on which they rested, burst open, 400 surviving out of 4,000. That it was a greater tragedy than even this shows is exemplified by the fact that the whole burden of medical care on the north coast of Papua had been carried by this establishment. The eruption's cultural consequences have already been calculated in a study in depth by Eric G. Schwimmer. The present work has no literary pretensions but presents new material. It includes medical confirmation, for instance, that Papuan Highlanders have a high resistance to pain and little or no trouble with hearts, ulcers, cancer or blood pressure. That they do have other physical frailties accounts for much of the value of this mission, with its heroic record.

The last of the quartet, Sir John Gutch's *Martyr of the Islands*, also lacking literary graces, devotes itself to a man of outstanding physical courage, John Coleridge Patteson, first Bishop of Melanesia, who was clubbed to death between the Solomons and the New Hebrides in the "hard" area exactly 100 years ago. This is not the first biography, there is little that is novel in it, no bibliography is included, and there are spelling mistakes in New Zealand and Fiji places-names; Sir George Grey, New Zealand's outstanding Governor, is referred to once as "Sir James". There are no illustrations. A straightforward account of the setting-up of the Anglican Church in Melanesia, it is no great success-story. The author points out that the mission still has not attracted sufficient Melanesians and is dependent on expatriates; the Europeanization following the missions has been greater than Patteson would have wished. As emerges also from *The Road from Gona*, the main mission contribution has been to medical care and education of the islanders. What stands out most clearly once again about Patteson is his intrepidity, with the almost certain result that he would be the victim of the islanders' retaliation against blackbirding, the near-enslavement by plantation owners of kidnapped labourers. A disciple of Bishop Selwyn of New Zealand, throughout his life, ranging from Eton and Balliol to Santa Cruz, he showed iron determination and unshakable conviction. This book does not show any inner man different from the outer one and there are no surprises, except to learn (still perhaps without surprise in such a man) that Patteson's technique for defying mosquitoes was either by sleeping with a silk handkerchief lightly covering his head or burying himself under the sand.

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The 6,000 miles that made Mao

DICK WILSON:
The Long March 1935
The Epic of Chinese Communism's Survival.
331pp. Hamish Hamilton. £3.

Mao, naturally, had some words for it: "The Long March is a manifesto; the Long March is a propaganda force." Propaganda manifestos are sensitive corns, and sinologists have been so reluctant to tread on this one that the present volume is, remarkably enough, the first book-length presentation of the subject in English. This is surprising, because the story cries out for an Homeric canvas, with its "dreaded Lolos" (dealt with by a brotherhood oath drunk in chicken's blood), the crossing under fire of a chain bridge, whose few remaining planks were in flames, and a background of spirited political intrigues in which Mao, despite the odds, always seemed to come out on top.

In October, 1934, the main forces of the largest communist base in south-east China broke westwards through a circle of Kuomintang armies under Chiang Kai-shek. They had been squeezed almost out of existence by successive encirclement and blockade campaigns; they were demoralized: Mao was ill and in disgrace; military tactics were largely being determined by a non-Chinese-speaking German Comintern agent, and the future for communism in China looked bleak indeed. A year later, about one in twenty of the original force arrived at a new base area in north-west China. They had covered 6,000 miles of battles, mountain, snow and marsh: Mao had become leader of the Party, defeating several rivals and writing an equivalent number of poems in the process; foreign influence had been eliminated and the Party's army had survived, to grow in the war against Japan and sweep south to victory after it. The Long March was assured of a place in history—as both fact and legend.

The historian of the Long March is faced with a particularly difficult task of separating fact from fiction. Such was the charismatic value of the Long March, after the communist victory in 1949, that no good man could afford not to have been there. Even Mao's batman can be found stating in his memoirs, falsely, that the now disgraced Liu Shao-ch'i had been there with the best of them: doubtless his memory will be more accurate in the next edition. Dick Wilson is well aware of these pitfalls and his long experience of writing about China enables him to make propaganda materials assist in telling the story without succumbing to the temptation of accepting or rejecting them in toto. This alone is no mean feat, but the technique is not fully satisfactory without the balance provided by independent research. Where this is available from non-Chinese sources, as in the vexed question of who did what when Mao gained control at the Tsunyi conference in January, 1935, the author makes admirable use of all the latest research to demonstrate the complexity of events. For the details of the March itself, he is left with the less satisfactory method of selective comparisons from the recollections of survivors.

Some of the famous Long March episodes are so fantastic that the reader is tempted either to scepticism or to make a comparison with the equally fantastic exploits of the *conquistadores*. For one of the crucial crossings of the heavily guarded Tatu river in the mountainous borders of Tibet, the commander of the local garrison had helpfully taken one boat to the communist side—in order to visit his relatives. The Long Marchers arrived unexpectedly, seized the boat, and next morning made two crossings of the 300-metre-wide river under fire, one taking an hour. Only eighteen men crossed but they put to flight the enemy garrison of a regiment. Later, farther up the same river, the almost legendary crossing of the Luting Bridge was made by another group. Although part or all of the planks on a chain suspension bridge had been removed and the far side was held in force from fortified positions, the bridge was captured by an assault group of twenty-two men.

The Red Army was clearly an exceptionally tough, disciplined and enthusiastic force with many acts of great heroism to its credit; but, with some of the battles, the reader cannot help wondering if there is not an element of the typical warlord era operatic battle. The same question about the seriousness of the fighting hangs over the whole Long March. As Mr Wilson mentions, it has been suggested that Chiang Kai-shek deliberately allowed the communists to retreat into the south-west since their presence would be an excuse to introduce his own forces which, incidentally, would also subdue recalcitrant local warlords. Those worthies, being well aware of Chiang's intentions, were therefore only too anxious to push the communists on to the next man's parish as quickly as possible and their attacks were intended to be more harrying than destructive. We still do not know if there is any truth in these accusations. *The Long March 1935* interprets the moves of Chiang Kai-shek and his often reluctant allies only on the basis of documents from the communist side and without reference to the Chinese-language materials now published in Taiwan, which would give a very different, but not necessarily more accurate, account of what happened. There is scope here for a less heroic but equally interesting interpretation of the dramatic events of 1935.

With all its modern hagiographic overtones, the epic of the Long March is still as important in the consciousness of people i today as Shakespeare's ver history was for Tudor Engl also helped to mould China's of communism, with its elements of independence o Soviet Union and belief i virtues. The small band wh vived the privations of the have continued to dominat Chinese Communist Party ever and their experience has made tough, independent and, even remarkably united. Mr W deserves congratulation for the he has presented this story a background for readers o China. President Nixon wo well advised to read it before out on his own Long March.

Twilight of the Tsar

GEORGE KATKOV, ERWIN OBERLANDER, NIKOLAUS POPPE and GEORG VON RAUCH (Editors):
Russia Enters the Twentieth Century 1894-1917
352pp. Temple Smith. £3.50.

Here is yet another symposium—this time on the last quarter of a century of Tsarist rule in Russia—built on a pattern immensely popular, in this country and in the United States, in the past twenty years.

The trouble about a collection of this kind is the difficulty of seeing what audience it is intended to attract. The beginner needs a simple guiding hand through the maze, and will wander clueless through a formidable forest of trees of different shapes and sizes. The advanced student will wonder what was the point of re-hashing so much familiar and easily accessible information. Somewhere in between somebody will perhaps find this useful. But one suspects that a lot of fairly recently published collections of this kind are already encumbering space and accumulating dust on library shelves.

The need for selection makes this a difficult work to review. The present reviewer turned first to those items which seemed likely to offer some less familiar factual information, such as those by Gerhard Simon on Church and State, and by Oskar Anweiler on school education. Neither of these disappointed him. This does not mean that they are intrinsically superior to, say, Harry Willetts on the agrarian problem from the emancipation to 1917, or Violet Conolly on the nationalities question. Both these are excellent summaries. But one wonders how anything fresh could possibly be said on these well-known and excessively complicated subjects in less than thirty pages apiece.

If these essays are linked by any single unifying idea, it is a mood of mild nostalgia for a defunct period of history. Several of them lead up to the concluding reflection, more or less explicitly formulated, that things were going on quite nicely and would have produced satisfactory results if only they had not been interrupted by the revolution. To substitute "if only" dreams for historical explanations is no doubt tempting. But it requires us in this case to believe that the revolution of 1905 and the two revolutions of 1917 were the consequence of wicked conspiracies or unfortunate accidents, rather than of some core of rottenness in the regime itself. It is, to say the least, an implausible hypothesis.

Miss Conolly's contribution already referred to is exemp this criticism. She ends by q the contemporary verdict o administrator that "Russian p for half a century did not succ making the indigenous people servants of the Russian Empi and suggests that this failure vides one explanation of the disintegration of the empire the storm broke.

Mr Willetts on the other reproves Lenin for saying tha Stolypin reform had "a st death", and thinks that it wa hopeful new beginning". It pends on the point of view. Stolypin reform was destroyed by the Bolsheviks, whose ag policy in 1917 was notoriou of their own choosing, and forced on them from below, b the mass of peasants taking into their own hands. Perha sible solutions of the agrarian lem whether "capitalist" "socialist" could be worked Petersburg or Moscow. Bu struggling peasant living ne the hunger level could not c by extreme compulsion, be i to tolerate reforms whether pinist or Stalinist that disturbe traditional way of life in ord satisfy the needs of cities and go ments.

Between communism and democratic socialism

JULIUS BRAUNTHAL:
Geschichte der Internationale
Volume 3.
723pp. Hannover: J. H. W. Dietz. DM 78.

This massive book concludes Julius Braunthal's history of the Socialist International, the first two volumes of which have already appeared in English. The author, who reached the age of eighty this year, was secretary to the International from 1950 to 1956, having previously played a major part in the politics of his native Austria. In the 1940s he edited the *International Socialist Forum* then published in London on behalf of the numerous Socialist Parties in exile, and there is hardly a single outstanding figure in the movement with whom he has not been in personal contact during the past half-century. Nor are his interests limited to Europe: a section of this volume is devoted to the expansion of socialism and communism in Asia since 1945, and some of the protagonists took part in the congresses held by the reconstituted International during the 1950s.

Whereas the Second International founded in 1889 was limited to Europe and North America, its post-1945 successor has taken root in India, Burma and Japan. The term "social-democratic" cannot be applied to these parties without qualification, a circumstance emphasized by the Indonesian socialist leader Soetan Sjahrir, when in 1956 he drew attention to the symbiosis of socialism and nationalism in the countries of the Third World. As Dr Braunthal himself observes, "Indonesian nationalism was anti-capitalist, because capitalism in Indonesia was . . . a capitalism of the West". Since these words were written, the fusion of nationalism and socialism in Chile has demonstrated anew that the Socialist International cannot simply be identified with the West German or the Swedish model.

The bulk of this third volume of what is clearly destined to become the standard work on the subject is none the less devoted to Europe, and specifically to the dual movement observable since 1945: the communist takeover in the areas controlled by the Soviet Union and the evolution of democratic socialism in the remainder of the continent. Dr Braunthal was himself deeply involved in the abortive attempt in 1945 to 1948 to overcome the historic socialist-communist split, before the coup d'état in Prague of 1948 and the intensification of the Cold War rendered these hopes illusory.

It is a melancholy story, related at length and with a profusion of documentation which historians will find useful. The author belongs to the Austro-Marxist school of thought, more influential in Eastern and Central Europe than in the English-speaking world. In his view the overcoming of the great schism introduced by the Russian Revolution was rendered nugatory after 1945 by the infernal dialectic of the Cold War which had been provoked by the Soviet-American antagonism in general, and the impact of Stalinism in particular. At the same time he is quite clear that the split could only have been overcome if the communists had been prepared to jettison Leninism in favour of classical Marxism. There was never a chance that this would occur, and in the light of what happened in Czechoslovakia three years ago one may safely conclude that a liberalized version of communism was beyond the bounds of possibility even before the Cold War had broken out in 1947.

The Stalinists—and every single Communist Party in 1945 was committed to Stalinism—aimed at total control and regarded their socialist allies in Eastern Europe as sacrificial lambs to be devoured at the first opportunity. For that matter, the Polish and Hungarian socialists knew their peasant electorates well enough to prefer an enforced amalgamation with the communists to the danger of allowing the political and clerical right to regain power.

The reconstruction of democratic socialism in Western Europe occupies the central position of Dr Braunthal's story, but the Cominform, the Stalin-Tito conflict, the Hungarian rising of 1956, and the emergence of a quasi-socialist society in Israel all come in for extended treatment. The author's standpoint is throughout determined by an intellectual and moral commitment which leads him to describe the events of 1956 as "the tragedy of the revolution in Hungary".

That is to say, he adheres to the orthodox Marxist position, for which democracy and socialism are indissolubly linked in such a fashion that even an interim period of "proletarian dictatorship" exercised by communists need not permanently block the path to an authentic socialist democracy backed by the whole people. Not surprisingly, he describes the "Prague spring" of 1968 as a "Czechoslovak revolution" and "one of the most important events in the history of the Communist movement". Others may prefer to see it as a doomed attempt to democratize a Stalinist regime which had the additional misfortune of being crucially important to Moscow.

Dr Braunthal does justice to Kurt Schumacher who reconstructed German Social Democracy after 1945, but his heart is with those socialists who did not renounce the Marxist heritage. When in 1951 the Socialist International was formally reconstituted in Frankfurt, he was among the majority who resisted the attempt of Morgan Phillips, speaking on behalf of the British Labour Party, to dissociate the movement from its own tradition. Like the majority of those present, he was taken aback by the suggestion that the British labour movement "had never accepted the Marxian conception of class conflict". This was rather too much not only for the Italians, but also for Guy Mollet. In the end the congress left it to its individual parties to settle the issue in accordance with their respective desires. Democratic socialism was defined as "an international movement which does not require a rigid uniformity of opinion". This elastic formulation permitted the French, the Italians and the Latin Americans to go on citing Marx, while the Germans, the Dutch and the Swedes increasingly came to share the British standpoint.

The Socialist Congress was described by the Cominform journal as "an assembly of Wall Street agents", while "the Fascist I came in for similar choice ep During the two decades that passed, the world has witnessed edifying spectacle of Mos trained and Peking-trained com nists abusing each other in this of language to the point where no greatly cares any longer what say about each other or about socialist rivals. If Tito could in be called a "Fascist", why sh not Alexander Dubček in 197 described as a traitor to the work class? Dr Braunthal has written history of a movement which, fo its many faults, never descended this level. Nor will it ever do s long as it remains true to its orig which in the last analysis go back the Enlightenment.

The Foundation of the Ge Empire: Select Documents (C Oxford University Press. £ Paperback, £1.50) is a transla by Agatha Ramm of Helm Böhme's *Die Reichsgründung* small volume of documents cover the 1850s and 1860s up to Janu 1871, which was published as a D paperback four years ago. particularly welcome because fessor Böhme's magnum opu every sense of the word). *De lands Weg zur Grossmacht* in the *TLS* on March 7, 196 awaits a translation. Exactly that monograph, the docu emphasize the social and eco factors which brought about fication of Germany under and which were equally im in determining the strength weakness of opposition to cially in the South Germ

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The human flashpoint

The Works of Stephen Crane:
Volume V: Tales of Adventure. cxcv, 242pp. $15.
Volume VI: Tales of War. cxci, 400pp. $22.50.
Edited by Fredson Bowers
Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia.

Four volumes have now been published in the University of Virginia edition of the Works of Stephen Crane. The two latest, Volumes V and VI, cover "Tales of Adventure" and "Tales of War". This means that we now have all the short stories (some in fact quite long) that Crane wrote about three wars of the nineteenth century: the American Civil War, the Greek-Turkish War and the Spanish-American War. The last two he actually covered as a war correspondent as well as writing about them imaginatively; he took part in the invasion of Cuba in 1898. Hugh Thomas in his recent *Cuba or the Pursuit of Freedom* describes this as being "more a newspaper war than an economic conflict" but he does not mention Crane, who provides such a vivid account both of the fighting and of the press corps that went over with the American troops.

We also have here all the stories that Crane wrote about the West and Mexico, which he visited in 1895. He was writing stories of various kinds when he was living in England at Brede Place with his wife Cora in the late 1890s, trying to live by marketing them in magazines on either side of the Atlantic. Taken together the volumes show Crane as a supreme depicter of those moments in human affairs when the temperature is being raised to flashpoint and of the subsequent explosions.

Sometimes miraculously, as in "The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky", when public enemy number one confronts the newly-wed sheriff, detonation is avoided:

> "Married?" said Scratchy. Seemingly for the first time he saw the drooping drowning woman at the other man's side. "No!" he said. He was like a creature allowed a glimpse of another world. He moved a pace backward, and his arm with the revolver dropped to his side. "Is this—is this the lady?" he asked.

At other times, as in "The Blue Hotel", the explosion comes with horrible unexpectedness:

> The barkeeper dashed around the corner of his bar. There was a great tumult, and then was seen a long blade in the hand of the gambler. It shot forward, and a human body, this citadel of virtue, wisdom, power, was pierced as easily as if it had been a melon. The Swede fell with a cry of supreme astonishment.

In either case the moment is presented with absolute completeness, with all its antecedents and consequences lovingly and ironically stroked in. The Maupassant tradition of slow psychological character build-up is replaced by something much more immediate, anticipating cinema, but infinitely subtler in its representation of all the elements in the situation, accidental and psychological. At the end of "The Blue Hotel" we still do not know really what went on in the mind of the drunken Swede but we do have a total knowledge of the situation in which his death was inevitable.

Crane puts the traditional concepts of honour and courage under a sceptical scrutiny, and nowhere more often than in his accounts of war. He annotates shock in such moments as a man complaining of the dampness of the ground after he has been struck by a bullet and a soldier unable to cover his dead comrade's face with earth; we see a girl during a search of her farm by the Yankee troops feeling that she ought to be behaving like a heroine when her actions are little short of heroic.

Crane is equally authentic whether he is writing about a war he merely imagined or one he actually visited, or one he invented (as in the "Spitzbergen Tales", also included). The truth is that a state of exceptional alertness and reliance on one's own resources in the presence of an enemy (which used to be what was meant by war) was something to which he was perfectly attuned as a human being and which pervaded both his life and work. At this stage there is not much more that can be said about such wonderful depictions of danger as "The Open Boat", "Death and the Child", "The Price of a Harness", and many more of the same high quality to be found here, except to hope that many more people will come to know them.

For obvious reasons these volumes will be bought by university libraries rather than private individuals and perused by students of American literature whose needs they serve richly, through general introductions by James B. Colvert and J. C. Levenson and textual ones by Fredson Bowers (who characteristically unravels all the ramifications of variant magazine printings and manuscripts). But it is greatly to be hoped that later on there will appear a "popular" edition based on these definitive texts enabling the common reader to enjoy the art of a great pioneer American writer who, as one of the editors says, long before Hemingway showed people attaining "grace under pressure".

Moments of manifestation

MORRIS BEJA:
Epiphany in the Modern Novel
255pp. Peter Owen. £3.

Stephen Hero provides an open sesame: "He believed that it was for the man of letters to record these epiphanies with extreme care, seeing that they themselves are the most delicate and evanescent of moments." But what is an "epiphany"? In Joyce's words: "a sudden spiritual manifestation, whether in the vulgarity of speech or of gesture or in a memorable phase of the mind itself". Thus an "epiphany" is both the "manifestation" and the "moment" of manifestation. It is both the revelation as a whole and the incidents leading up to that revelation, as well as the manuscripts (in Joyce's use) in which such revelations are recorded. For though epiphanies, like that of Saul on the road to Damascus, may be sudden, the experience itself may well have been prepared over a long period of time.

Morris Beja's study, then, is of a theological term turned to secular use. In Emerson's phrase, every fact, however "dull" or "despised", is "an Epiphany of God"; and Gerard Manley Hopkins or T. S. Eliot, for example, still urged the exclusively metaphysical pressure of divine apocalypse. But Joyce, in turning from his Jesuit mentors, transformed such mystical revelations to "spiritual" illumination, produced by any random event: a tree, a work of art, conversation overheard, the promptings of memory or of dreams. From such shocks of recognition, within a play of chance, springs spiritual regeneration.

Erich Auerbach, long ago, had opened up this concern for apparent trivia in *Mimesis* ("The Brown Stocking"). But its history, of course, goes back beyond Virginia Woolf to James, and Proust, to Conrad and Pater's *Marius the Epicurean*, and finally to Sterne. For no moment can be viewed as inherently disconnected; or rather, it may be connected to a contiguous moment (in chronological time) only at the expense of profounder metaphoric connexions through invisible time-loops within the experiencing mind. Ultimately the subject is time itself, the nature of time and the inevitable disruptions and re-creations of human time. The Zen *koan* (or absurd question) deliberately induces such disruptions; and time re-created (in this Buddhist version) is *Satori*, or Enlightenment.

This study of time, therefore, logically opens with a glance at conversions (in Augustine, Bunyan, Jonathan Edwards, Carlyle), or momentary transcendence of time. For as Proust wrote, at the close of *Le Temps retrouvé*, his aim was (or *is*, or rather *will be*) to describe men

> as occupying in Time a place far more considerable than the so restricted one allotted them in space, a place, on the contrary, extending boundlessly since, giant-like, reaching far back into the years, they touch simultaneously epochs of their lives—with countless intervening days between—so widely separated from one another in Time.

The link, as the Romantics discovered, between the nature of inspiration and the meaning of time lies in the memory. And all the novelists here deployed—Virginia Woolf, Thomas Wolfe, Joyce and Faulkner—are obsessed with the wayward operations of memory. Like Sterne's Walter Shandy they were determined not only to explore, but to control, all memories their fictional brain-children might, or would ever, have, and thus to possess their souls. Their texts are built, in Bergson's phrase, on this "intersection of mind and matter". Or, as Joyce wrote in *Portrait of the Artist*: "the past is consumed in the present and the present is living only because it brings forth the future". The task of the artist, then, is by arresting to transcend the Heraclitan flux.

Whatever variants Professor Beja's central chapters explore, a common theme stands: that in modern fiction, as in life, the death of God, the collapse of reason, the disappearance of plot, the demise of naturalism—all are linked. Divine Truth and divine inspiration are submerged by the random, the epileptic, the absurd. Logic and analytic reason give way to intuition and "inner light". Plot is dissolved in patterns of consciousness; direction in indirection. Naturalism is stifled in favour of juxtaposition, poetic techniques, the psychological co-existence of all time.

Contemporary films, par excellence, have popularized this new temporal and spatial relativity. But Franz Kafka is the prophet of the word where heart-beat and clock-beat are no longer synchronized. While among our earlier voyagers into these uncharted seas were Blake (reclaiming "Eternity in an hour") and Wordsworth of *The Prelude*:

> There are in our existence spots of time
> That with distinct pre-eminence retain
> A renovating virtue . . .
> A virtue, by which pleasure is
> enhanced,
> That penetrates, enables us to mount,
> When high, more high, and lift us up
> when fallen.

So, too, the first thing Thomas Mann's Hans Castorp learnt on ascending his magic mountain was that "they make pretty free with a human being's idea of time up here". This is no easy subject; nor is this an easy book. Yet despite a certain stiffness of style—like a traveller's trunk packed tight, as if a bulging card-index reading "Abrams M. H., Schopenhauer, Hulme, Kant, Rousseau Jean-Jacques", etc, etc, had all to be accommodated—this is as good a place as any for a reader to begin a study of fiction after James and Proust. Its themes are central; its signposts clear. In the words of Professor Beja's conclusion: "For the artist has accomplished his full task only when an epiphany in art produces a revelation of nature, when fiction illumines reality, when literature becomes experienced."

Just about free

MARCEL JOUHANDEAU:
Confrontation avec la poussière
Journaliers XV: Octobre 1963-Février 1964.
202pp. 14.75fr.

Une Adolescence
206pp. 19fr.

Olympias, Antistia et Tout ou rien
117pp. 5.50fr.
Paris: Gallimard.

English-speaking countries have shown less interest in Marcel Jouhandeau than in almost any other contemporary French writer of comparable standing. Eighteen years ago a one-volume translation of selections from six of his best-known novels—the novels of married life—was published in England and America. Its impact on the reading public was minimal, and there appear to have been no further translations of any of his books.

If Jouhandeau is a less controversial or a less prominent figure in his own country than was once the case, it is not due to any letting-up on his part. He was always a prolific writer. His output has, if anything, increased with age, and the number of his published works has now passed the hundred mark.

Confrontation avec la poussière is the fifteenth volume in a series called "Journaliers". Jouhandeau describes it as "une sorte de film de ma vie quotidienne". It is in fact a diary, but though the publishers place it among his "Essais" or miscellaneous writings, there is no great difference between this series and the strongly autobiographical novels on which his reputation as a writer largely depends. The present volume is very much the mixture as before, but in spite of repetitions of familiar points of view, it is, like most of his work, immensely readable.

Although Jouhandeau was seventy-five in 1963 he had lost none of his verve, and there had been no change in his beliefs or his tastes. He is still the convinced papist as well as the enthusiastic and practising homosexual. For him there are only two sins that count: impiety and homicide in its many forms. Apart from that, man is "free". Homosexuality is a challenge to nature. "Nothing", he writes, "is more precious to my mind than this victory over nature, over a nature which is so lofty and determined only to submit to the prestige of Woman." His latest conquest is a young ex-jailbird known as "S". He displays the homosexual's liking for promiscuity or, more charitably, variety. The affair with S lasts just about as long as the present instalment of the diary. Although he is already planning a replacement, the end of the affair with S encourages a somewhat different ambition. "I should like to be a saint", he says. "There may still be time and I am free."

There is a moving account of his adopted daughter's unhappy marriage to an unsatisfactory husband, and Jouhandeau's intense devotion to her illegitimate son. We naturally hear a good deal about one of the most extraordinary and most publicized of "literary" marriages. The wife has given her version of it in her three-volume autobiography, *Joies et douleurs d'une belle excentrique*, described here by the husband as "petits pâtés empoisonnés qu'elle cuit successivement chez Flammarion et Grasset!" What strikes us about this and other references to the marriage is the disappearance of the clowning element, which is very marked in the novels, and the appearance of a new bitterness.

Une Adolescence, which takes us back to the years 1955-59, is the second volume of Jouhandeau's story of the childhood and adolescence of the adopted daughter. It is a vivid picture of a very lively, engaging and decidedly capricious teenager. With a couple like Marcel and Elise, the presence of an adopted daughter was bound to be a source of endless trouble. The devotion of the father provokes the harshest treatment by the bullying mother. But as she grows older Céline turns out to be perfectly capable of holding her own. "En Céline", we are told, "Élise n'a pas affaire à une agnelle, mais louve à une louve." Not that the child is above playing one off against the other when she feels that it is necessary for her own protection, or that the devoted foster-father always escapes. Her passion for youthful bricklayers prompts her to tell Élise in front of him that he is nothing but a sort of bricklayer. "Instead of bricks and mortar, he builds with words and his trowel is a penholder." This instalment ends with her seduction by a young Italian bricklayer who returns to his native country to do his military service, leaving Céline to bear the illegitimate son who turns up in *Confrontation*.

The third book is as different as could be from the first two; it is a model of impersonality. It consists of three short plays. The subjects of *Olympias* and *Antistia* are taken from ancient times; the setting of *Tout ou rien* is contemporary. Producers are named for the two classical plays, but we are not told whether they were stage or broadcast productions. All three are powerful and well-constructed works which should make better broadcasting material than some of the dramatized versions of novels that one hears and sees.

DAVID & CHARLES
Check-list for 19 August
Britain's Railways
An Industrial History
Industrial Histories of Britain series
HAROLD POLLINS £3.15
The Iron and Steel Industry
A Dictionary of Terms
W K V GALE £2.75
Land and Industry
The Landed Estate and the Industrial Revolution: A Symposium:
Edited by J T WARD and R G WILSON £3.75
The Roman Land Surveyors
An Introduction to the Agrimensores
O A W DILKE £3.90
Soviet Rocketry
The First Decade of Achievement
Introduction by Patrick Moore
MICHAEL STOIKO £3.25
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With Notes on the Speech House
CYRIL HART £3.15
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DOUGLAS PHILLIPS-BIRT £2.75
Windmills and Millwrighting
New edition
STANLEY FREESE £2.50
David & Charles Reprints
Strong's Industries of North Devon (1889)
New edition, with new material by B D Hughes
H W STRONG £3.15
David & Charles
Newton Abbot, Devon

Wha daur meddle wi me, O?

HUGH MacDIARMID:
A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle
Edited by John C. Weston.
122pp. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press. $7.50.

A poem of 2,685 lines, *A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle*, first published in 1926, has been described by David Daiches as "the greatest long poem . . . in Scottish literature and one of the greatest in any literature". Hugh MacDiarmid, whose real name is Christopher Murray Grieve, was already famous at the time of its publication for some beautiful lyrics in Scots, as an anthologist of Scottish poetry, and as a publicist for the idea of a Scottish literary revival. The poem, owing something in its original conception to Burns's *Tam O'Shanter*, is a monologue by a drunk but gradually sobering man who on his way home from a night with two cronies, contemplates a thistle which, in its raggedness, its prickliness—"Wha daur meddle wi me, O?"—its rootedness in a harsh soil, and yet at the top its final flowering, is the symbol of Scottish poetic culture as the rose is the symbol of English.

He contemplates it by moonlight, and also contemplates the moon. The thistle suggests random reflections on the Scottish nation, often sardonic and hostile; it also acts as a phallic symbol. The moon is a symbol of poetic inspiration, and the drunkenness, gradually wearing off, of a poetic insight into things which is preferable to the dour commonsense and bourgeois logic which is the other side, or one other side, of the Scottish character. The poem appears to ramble on, vividly, pungently, amusingly, taking in all sorts of topics from the greatness of Dostoevsky, whose Russia is seen as an equivalent of the poet's Scotland, to the General Strike and its failure.

The poet's wife Jean is seen sometimes as a shrew "nursing her wrath to keep it warm", like Tam O'Shanter's wife, sometimes as a symbol of the self-forgetfulness which the poet can achieve in love for Jean and sometimes in love for the whole universe, for which Jean stands. But the thistle rooted in a gaping hole is also a symbol of the cruel trap of material being in which the poet's and mankind's spirit or essence is trapped, and sometimes as a symbol of the sheer thrawnness of the Scottish character, bitter and harsh, which refuses to change or be transformed. Should the poet escape from Scotland or die, like many Scottish poets in the past, in attempting to transform Scotland?

The poem as it progresses gradually gains in coherence and we have a vision of human life or fate as a great wheel from which mankind must attempt to escape (or whose nature, at least, mankind must attempt to understand), Scotland being a little wheel within the great wheel. The alternative to a vision of meaningless predestination is the vision of some spirit shaping human history, a spirit older, deeper, and wiser than God himself, a spirit which in the magnificent last page of the poem expresses itself through silence: not the silence of loneliness, fear, death, or God in the traditional understanding of the concept of God, but the silence with which we accept the sense of some immanent purpose working through human history, of men becoming, or always having latently been, mankind. But with the gift for abrupt transition which is one of the great gifts of Scottish poetry (the half-Scottish Byron had it in perfection), this sublime passage ("'the sublime' in the old sense", as Pound says) ends with a deflating couplet:

> O I hae Silence left,
> —"And weel ye micht,"
> Sae Jean'll say, "efter sic a
> nicht!"

This summary owes a great deal to John C. Weston's "A Critical Note" at the end of this edition and, much as has been written about *A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle*, little is so useful to the English reader in particular as Professor Weston's simple and modest attempt to explain what actually happens in the poem. But his greatest service to Mr MacDiarmid is his transliteration of the old-fashioned spelling of Scots as a dialect, "a'" for instance as a dialect form of the English "all", "win'" of the English "wind" and so forth—a convention which both peppers even the pages of Burns with disagreeable apostrophes and makes Braid Scots look like a poor relation of English, instead of a language on its own. "A'" is, in fact, not a contraction of the English "all" but a Scottish word which is better spelt "aa". When younger Scottish poets devised what they called the Scottish stylesheet, Mr MacDiarmid indicated in a letter to the *Scotsman* that though he had not the time to transliterate his early poems (most of his later long poems have been in English) into the spelling of the new convention, he would ask his literary executors to do so.

In his *Collected Poems* Mr MacDiarmid, besides making no attempt to regularize his orthography, spoiled the appearance of *A Drunk Man* by dividing it, and even then not always wholly logically, into a number of short lyrics with titles which were sometimes inept. The effect of the dizzying continuity of the d man's monologue, the strange ir vance of his irrelevancies, was a lost. Professor Weston has re the layout of the first editi which, he points out, there is one real signpost for the read row of asterisks before the last short section on silence. The convention for the spelling will the reader realize that he is re a language, not what John Bu once described with contempt (unconscious contempt) as "the guage of the home-bred slave". marginal glosses will make the E lish reader realize that, though Scots language is not the Engli guage, it is a language which quite easy for him to underst

In his lifetime, a great poe been presented with a classic ed of the one undoubted classic a his longer poems. The pr reviewer lent this edition to a intelligent schoolgirl, with acquaintance with the S literary tradition. She at became engrossed in it and was the most exciting poem she ever read. It is to be hoped Professor Weston's work of sch ship and piety (his notes are excellent) will at last give this poem the wide readership, i English-speaking countries and only in Scotland, that it deserv

Cochrane (and Lady Cochrane) *by Donald Davie*

That honoured name!
Hero of a hundred fights!
A man who could have ruled
the world upon the sea . . .
She cannot bear
to be sitting there
to vindicate the name
for ages and for ages
"has run the World with his deeds"

Before the House of
Lords, 24th July, 1862

Once too often he had fenced
With the Commons; then, incensed,
Coldly they saw depart
Their pocket Bonaparte.
Nor could their chiefs, though too obtuse
To recognize in him a loose
Bold travesty upon
Cast down Napoleon
(Their fiercer Cromwell, now immured
On St. Helena, and secured
By sloop and spyglass), grieve
To see rash Cochrane leave.
So liberated Chile bought
The impenitent class-traitor out:
The flaming petrel planes
Again the ocean-lanes!

Upon his return from
Brazil, 1825

"Hero of a hundred fights!
I have stood upon the battledeck.
I have seen men fall. I have raised them.
I have fired a gun to save a man.
For the honour of my husband, I would do it again."

"Yes, I did assent
To accompany him to Scotland."
—What time did you leave London?—
"The evening of the sixth of August
eighteen hundred and twelve."
—How did you travel? It is
unimportant?—
"Yes, it is unimportant."
—With great speed, with four horses?—
"Sometimes, sometimes with two
as we could, night and day.
He named Carlisle and several other towns.
I was tired, worn. I was young."

Demonic syren-voices choired
From St. Helena, as the hired
Condottiere sailed
Past impetus that failed.
O'Higgins then, and San Martín
Await him, in the Alpine, keen
Air they have burned through, all
Singed by an Empire's fall.
Revolution! Should he not,
Libertarian, have brought
A genius for more
Than tactics, to that shore?
And so he did. Diplomatist
He showed himself, when pressed:
Lima reveals that art
Mastered on his part
When, mixing censures with surmise
To San Martín how he might rise
To a Napoleon's rôle,
He muddied that man's soul
Who had, no Alexander nor
Cromwellian Bolívar,
No human meteor, mapped
Routes for the stocking-capped
Virago, Liberty, across
The scathed Andean pass,
And painfully amassed
Material for the thrust;
Who, when that northward thrust was spent,
Declared himself played out, content;
Softly withdrew; and died
In Brussels, vilified.
(This was the bowed, averted head
Men stumbled on, disquieted,
Digging foundations for
Unstable Ecuador.)

"A sort of pet name of his own
he had for me, and he said:
'It is all right, Mouse.
Mouse, we are over the Border.'
He said: 'You are mine for ever.'
He snapped his fingers the way
that Scotchmen do
when they are pleased. I arrived
at Annan on the evening of the eighth,
and when I arrived at the Queensberry Arms
he was very joyous; I suppose
men in love are. He said:
'It is all right, it is all right.'
He sat himself down as any gentleman might:
'I came here, Dick, to be married
and this is my wife,' turning to me; and he bowed."

Look! Abashed, the Portuguese
Are scoured in one year from the seas:
So much one man can do
That does, and knows not how.
Brazil, a Lusitanian mouth,
Can best acclaim, and will, the South
American Lafayette,
And pay at last her debt;
And shall she weakly countermand,
To one grown stiffer in command,
His licence to hold sway
Who will, at will, obey?
Does genius not inscribe and fill
Time's empty page with eagle's quill?
So, when the albatross
Has fished, and sailed across
One mast and tossing ensign, will
The flag direct him where to kill
Next, in the self-sought, clear
Taut arc of his career?

"After the paper was signed
and the servants gone, he began
to dance the Sailor's Hornpipe.
He put his hands up, so,
and 'Now you are mine,' he said.
—You marry like this in Scotland?—
'Oh yes,' he said, 'You are mine.
I have no time to spare, I have no time to lose.'
He kissed me, he did not go
into my room, and he went off as he came."

So what may not his heirs presume
While Victory lives in his sea-room?
What may not others fear
If thus he crowns each year?
As Mao, he shall Indus dam;
As Kennedy, breach Vietnam!
And to all states not free
A hectic fever be.
What a renascent Hellas means
Next he shall show, that Philhellenes
May manfully stamp out
Some queasiness, some doubt:
Not long shall trapped Albanians seek
To know what mercy means, in Greek;
Nor shall Egyptians find
A Third World in his mind;
But, People's Friend, he shall attain
To proof that Byron not in vain
Spoiled his vocation with
Loose verse to launch a myth.

—I understand your ladyship
to say it was in order
not to displease his Uncle,
from whom he had expectations,
he kept his marriage a secret?—
"Entirely so. By a secret
marriage he would avoid
this fortune going away."

Still voluble, still undeterred,
Our Cochranes keep their cloudy word;
The same arts that did gain
Him power, their power maintain,
Though thou, the war's and Fortune's son,
Terse Napoleon, bend upon
Play-actings pitched so high
A veiled, sardonic eye.

"The old Lady there, in the house,
spoke a very broad Scotch. I never
heard Scotch before. I said
(I was but young, you know,
perhaps a little pert) . . .
I said: 'What kind of place
do you call this?'
She said:
'The Queensberry Arms at Annan.'"

"I have stood on the battle deck . . .
I would do it again . . ." the voice
defensive and defiant.

Changing our minds

HARD R. LINGEMAN :
from A to Z : A Dictionary
pp. £2.50.

DON CLARIDGE :
and Human Behaviour
£2.40.
Lane The Penguin Press.

otion to intoxicating drugs is a cult peculiar to our time. ee millennia ago Aryan priests e reciting hymns in honour of juice of a deified plant (prob- fly-agaric) as an essential part the sacrificial ceremony. From incantations of the *Rig-Veda* to reports in current psychological pharmacological journals is a cry, but the road that connects can be traced. In nearly every lization some form of plant- ced behaviour has been prized; ern research toils away, identi- g and appraising the "natural" s and synthesizing new ones.

The therapeutics of mental dis- er became a very different affair h the advent of chlorpromazine ty years ago. "Psychopharmacology," now rivals psychotherapy the variety of its forms, the en- siasm of its champions, and the contradictions that sometimes ke its findings unacceptable. The n reasons for discrepant claims in the relatively unpredictable rse of mental illness—with its sibility of spontaneous recovery d its responsiveness to suggestion d affective concern—and in the defined boundaries of schizo- renia, neuroses, and character orders. The clinician and other servers may be much influenced their assessment of a patient's dition by hope, prejudice, pre- us experience, and unduly selec- e perception.

he patient is even more prone be misled into false judgment of ether there has been improve- nt or deterioration in his condi- Of the factors conducing to g about such a faulty report the st familiar can be summed up in "placebo-reaction". The choice the word "placebo" is significant, ginally coined to denote an inert g prescribed, not without cyni- m, by the physician because his ent expected or demanded it, it come to mean a dummy sub- ce which is pharmacologically tive, but nevertheless may bring t an appreciable subjective im- vement—or worsening—which is product of suitable interplay be- en the patient, the doctor and the ation. Hence the necessity for trials which precede introduction new drug into clinical practice, e so designed that the subject is a "placebo-reactor" can be spotted and the effects of suggestion and other components of the placebo reaction can be coped with. The "double-blind" device, the use of the experimental subject as his own control, and the distinction between toxic and innocuous side-effects are watchwords in the contemporary surge of psychopharmacological activity. The undeniable touchstone of success, therapeutic improvement, has dual parentage—the laboratory and the ward.

There is another area where drugs impinge on psychiatry conspicuously: the drugs of addiction. The cascade of hasty and opinionated or ill-considered publications dealing with that aspect is overwhelming, and its quality is roughly in inverse proportion to its content of assured knowledge. There has been a mighty spawning of new words, a few of them from Greek, but the majority in argot. They are copiously and reliably explained in Richard R. Lingeman's *Drugs from A to Z*.

Each drug of dependence has its individual characteristics and vogue prevalence; most controversial today is cannabis, and most colourful lysergide. Two comprehensive critical surveys of the "health consequences of marijuana" have lately appeared, one in the report of the Wootton Committee and the other in a communication to the United States Senate. The American report concludes:

> It becomes increasingly important that we know the implications of use for individuals who may be less physiologically or psychologically resilient and who may have a variety of disabilities. . . . We need to better understand the factors in our own and in other cultures which help to socially control drug use and to inhibit drug abuse. Although research in these areas frequently lacks the precision possible in laboratory sciences, it may prove to be in the end the most important in averting drug abuse and its health consequences.

Gordon Claridge quotes with approval the recommendation of a World Health Organization Committee that alcohol and cannabis should be considered together as presenting similar social and psychological problems.

Priests and patients

HEIJE FABER :
Pastoral Care in the Modern Hospital
148pp. SCM Press. £2.

The clergyman's role in hospital has of necessity always been ambiguous, uncertainly suspended between the professional concern of the doctors and nurses and the comforting presence of the occasional visitor. Heije Faber is concerned to give the hospital chaplain (or indeed any visiting minister) a positive function within the total therapeutic process. He is not indeed involved with the details of treatment, and he will evidently avoid entering a field that is not his own. But he is more than an occasional visitant, ready with his reassurances and the reference of sickness to a context that the medical and nursing staff as such are not concerned with. Fundamentally, as Dr Faber remarks, "to be a minister means really to enter into the other man's world, to listen to him with great care, and so to accompany him into the depths of his 'need', that you come together to the point where you both feel that only the gospel can speak here".

Such a function does not mean indifference to the professional work of those who are directly involved with the patient's treatment. On the contrary, it presupposes a respect for it, an understanding of its scope and of its final limitations. That is why the hospital chaplain is a co-operator in the whole therapeutic process, implying much more than the provision of the ritual functions that the patient is accustomed to in his ordinary life. But inevitably the chaplain stands apart, although involved. Dr Faber compares his function—at first sight rather unexpectedly—to that of the clown, who occupies a unique place in the circus although he is ultimately apart from it. The customary role of the clergyman is fast disappearing in our society: he is no longer of necessity regarded as the guardian of respectability, the authoritative voice of orthodoxy. Dr Faber characterizes his function as that of one who can show and share compassion, who has a feeling for the fringes of human life, who has wisdom and patience; in fact he is a clown, and St Paul could glory in being a fool for Christ's sake.

Dr Faber's sympathetic and original approach to the chaplain's function in the hospital community provides a great deal of practical wisdom. He is particularly good on the pastoral approach to psychosomatic illness and never allows his shrewd insights into the roots of much sickness to lessen the depth of his concern. He sums up all he has to say by defining the minister's role as being the sick man's companion and the doctor's fellow-worker. In the course of a wholly sympathetic study of the minister's presence in the hospital he has much to say that will be of value to doctors and nurses—and, not least, to the patient himself.

he unclubbables' club

Y BLANDY :
t from Rotten Apples
Gollancz. £2.

Blandy's account—to quote the e of her book—of "experi- work with detached youth" e than a day-to-day diary of situdes of a youth club with proportion of delinquent mem- That could have been a boring ue of experiments that failed, ht ideas that never matured. it, on the other hand, a high- analysis of the social and ogical factors to be con- by those who work with the e young. It is specifically ed with "the depressed, the d, the rejected; in sum, the ited minority". The "in- e young, signalling for help" ose that were the club's con- The "unattached", on the and, constitute no problem t least, not within the cate- hat are Miss Blandy's con-

book is a straightforward of what was done—games, dances, outings, casual conversations, rough stuff after the club was closed—and it has as much to say about the quality and discernment of the club leaders as of the problems of the club members. The "marginally unattached" (to use the familiar jargon) are not in the usual sense very rewarding clients for the social worker. Miss Blandy gives plenty of examples of crazes that flare up and die as quickly, of irregular attendance and ambivalent allegiances. But she is right to claim, however hesitantly, that "we were close enough to the brutal actuality to see things that others preferred to overlook". The emphasis was on getting the members to see that it was *their* club. Experience was the sole adult advantage, and it becomes clear that respect arose from the members' recognition that the club was being made their own—to make or to mar.

The real problem was, of course, to get into effective contact with the detached, who, in the nature of their case, were not naturally club-minded. The process was to make use of a nucleus who had come to see the worth of the club. They became its ambassadors, as it were, and finally Miss Blandy found that the main trouble was not that of getting in touch with the detached but of finding the time to cope with them all. The end of the story is the usual one: the cost became too great. The local authority had built a splendid new youth club at a cost of £30,000, and the only alternative was to close or to amalgamate.

Miss Blandy's book ends with the latter alternative. An appendix gives useful details of what were the aims and achievements of the original club. Some final recommendations are made in the light of the club's experience, the first of which is that "some kind of pioneer work with delinquent and disturbed unattached should be considered", and suggestions are made about how this might be attempted. The experiment can hardly be called a failure, if only because Miss Blandy's book shows so clearly the extent and depth of the problem.

Survival kits

MICHAEL R. A. CHANCE and CLIFFORD J. JOLLY :
Social Groups of Monkeys, Apes and Men
224pp. Cape. £2.75.

Ethologists have ranged far and wide and have not hesitated to generalize boldly: Konrad Lorenz set the example, expounding the features of aggression that are common to cichlids and men. Of late, more restrained aims and hypotheses have taken the stage and cautionary reminders have stressed the risks of inferring what human behaviour will be like from observation of other species. A deceptive or very limited similarity may be extended because the term used to designate it is equivocal: "fear" and "play" illustrate the difficulty.

The obvious corrective is regard for accurate definition and strict experimentation. Michael Chance and Clifford Jolly have consistently borne this in mind in *Social Groups of Monkeys, Apes and Men*. They are, as is proper, on the quest for just similarities and they have sought them in "our nearest zoological relatives". Whereas until the past quarter of a century observations of the behaviour of subhuman primates were mostly carried out on animals in captivity, we now have a respectable body of knowledge based mainly on observations in the wild by zoologists, social anthropologists and psychologists. The authors review these copious—but still insufficient—observations.

They concentrate on the behaviour which favours survival of the species in the face of predators: such behaviour determines active social grouping and the way in which the animal meets attack. Some aim to escape: the group is then "acentric" in its response within a given physical environment; while the centripetal type response depends on the dominant male round whom the rest of the group congregate and on whom their attention is focused. The societies of the chimpanzee and the gorilla are organized centripetally; the behaviour of such primates when attacked is not, like that of the baboon, aggressive.

In an unconvincing further dichotomy Dr Chance divides centripetal behaviour into "hedonic" and "agonistic"; in the former of these, flexible social relations serve to disseminate information within the group, whereas in the agonistic mode of behaviour the spread of information is interfered with by rigid rank-ordered social relations.

In a brief but laboured concluding chapter, man as a hunter-gatherer is compared with other primates. Some common social characteristics, especially "face-to-face" grouping, are taken to have a single evolutionary origin:

> It is not unreasonable to suggest that for example the centripetal form of attention so typical of the rank-ordered males of subhuman primates might provide an innate component which would play a decisive, creative as well as formative, role in establishing the forms of association which develop between men in groups in our complex society.

Dr Chance equates the dominant male of a centripetal social group with charismatic leaders; by a remarkably forced construction Ramsay MacDonald, Hitler and John L. Lewis—an extraordinary trio—are roped in to exemplify how mass escape to the protection of a charismatic leader may occur before there is any policy to accept and implement.

There are ethologists and ethologists: the authors belong to the party of sober zoological-social analysts. Though their style is heavy and their classificatory zeal at times tedious, their book provides an informative conspectus of recent work in a lively field of research.

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Published by
THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH PRESS

Where do we go after 'Oz'?

BY CLIVE JAMES

The *Oz* trial went overhead very slowly, like a fair to middling episode of *Monty Python's Flying Circus* running at the wrong speed. Suddenly, a far-off crunch: our faces fall. The news arrives that there has been an almighty pile-up and three of the madcap aviators will have to walk back—one of them might not be back at all. End of joke.

In the heyday of censorship in Australia's comic State of Victoria, you always knew what you were up against: nobody pretended to wisdom or even common reason. Inspector Eulenspiegel, or whatever his name was, simply asked the court to hang, draw and quarter the editors of the *Oxford English Dictionary* on the grounds that it contained certain words: whereupon the judge instructed the jury to show no mercy and awarded Eulenspiegel a fourth bar to his Surf Lifesaving Association's Bronze Medallion. The Returned Servicemen's League (95 per cent of the male adult population of the country) would then commandeer every existing news medium to remind the other 5 per cent that the lonely voice of the true digger had at last been heard and that these poms from Oxford were a mob of cockatoos and poofdahs. There was none of this misleading veneer of common sense disguising the essential ratbaggery and shoddiness of the proceedings: you knew where you were which was usually on the first available ship to England.

There is not much point in stoking the fire under Judge Argyle. Despite the views of several of Fleet Street's most distinguished leader writers (who seem to be of the opinion that he had sentenced the *Oz* editors for corrupting and depraving minors), he most definitely did not sentence the three intrepid flyers for something the jury said they had not done. What he did was give them a thundering sentence for what the jury said they *had* done. He picked them up by the exposed scruff of the neck and dumped them in the jug for something that in the normal course of events would not have cost them anything but money. Several of Fleet Street's most distinguished leader writers were acting on their own account when they decided to flounce up and down outside the chokey window patting themselves with powder puffs and shrieking about "corruption" an idea the jury had already rejected, on the strength of the prosecution's notable failure to produce expert evidence in its favour. Whether something is obscene or not is a ponderable which Judge Argyle treated as something empirically ascertainable, like whether someone is dead or not or whether a shop has been broken into or not: there is nothing in the law to dictate that he should have done otherwise, and if Wittgenstein had been in his place the instruction to the jury would still have had to be based on an *a priori* assumption, although probably a better one.

For the same reason, there is no point in guying Brian Leary: he attacked the moral credibility of witnesses for the simple reason that the law encourages him to—the only way to falsify somebody's moral assertions is to prove him immoral. When the crime itself is all to be established, who among us is not guilty? Nobody, except (and here we see a dazzle of propeller, a flash of goggles and a stream of silken scarf) Lord Longford, the White Knight of the Air.

Similarly there are no prizes to be won by poking fun at Detective Inspector Luff of the Obscene Publications Squad. For all the restrictions it places in the way of the police interpreting people's intentions and evincing distaste for people's general attitudes, the law (which is the well-known double-whammy, the Obscene Publications Acts of 1964 and 1969) might as well be Article 58 of the Soviet Criminal Code.

With all the world of obscenity to choose from and everything is obscene which a jury will disapprove of—it is necessary to be selective. No wonder then, that Soho porn is left relatively alone and those areas are picked on which are not self-regulating, where rudery is claimed to be a means towards an end and where the end is something with which they are out of sympathy. The police would have to be Athenian philosophers, and several cuts above the ones surrounding Socrates, to do better than they do now. It's the law that's at fault. It centres on a concept that nobody has ever been able to define, and once a charge has been brought under it there is no defence against the ordinary prejudices of prosecution, judge and jury except to introduce a counterbalancing, equally undefinable concept, such as literary merit.

In the *Oz* case the counter-balancing concept turned out to be a version of the public good—a version involving the right to criticize, the right to question, the necessity for untrammelled evolutionary change. It didn't have a chance. It wouldn't have had a chance if George Bernard Shaw had stood there for five weeks reading his collected "Prefaces" aloud and screening newsreels of Galileo on the rack. There is nothing that can happen in a courtroom which will give specificity to a vague law. It was a wise man who said that the Lady Chatterley acquittal gave the notion of obscenity substance and was therefore catastrophic.

Under the Obscenity laws it is possible to bring covert charges against political opinions, and the mere possibility should be enough reason to get these laws off the books in all haste. It makes no difference if the judge thinks it is not a political trial. It makes no difference if all the leader-writers in London think it is not a political trial. Once there is selection in deciding what to charge, it is a political trial, whatever happens at it and whichever way it goes. An underground publication can be wiped out simply by the cost of being hauled before a court. Once the charge is brought, the job is done. This is too much power for anyone to have, and what our leader-writers must realize—all at once if possible, but one at a time if necessary—is that *any* use of such power is an abuse.

I should say at this point that I myself have small sympathy for *Oz* in general, and scarcely any at all for the culprit issue No. 28: I laughed like a drain at the priapic Rupert the Bear but found the rest thick-witted and raucous in the usual *Oz* way. That it was produced by schoolchildren proved nothing to me beyond the fact that adolescent rhetoric had shifted away from class-ridden, British Empire rubbish towards revolutionary rubbish. The new brand of rhetoric, like the old, is there to be grown out of in the search for the real, and the one advantage it offers is that it at least tries to take account of a few salient facts about the condition of the modern world. On sex the new rhetoric is less obscurantist than the old, and the *Oz* editors (and their defenders both legal and journalistic) are on strong moral ground when they argue that an imposed ignorance is no control and that a compassionate concern for the world is closely allied to the shedding of sexual guilt.

Beyond that, in *Oz* No. 28, as in every other issue, there is just the usual earnest confusion about what the condition of the world actually is. Like equivalent confusions of previous eras it strikes me as being ineluctably middle-class in the political solutions it proposes. For the short term at any rate it's a phantom revolution, but at least it is not po-faced. At least it tries to be fun to belong to, and probably the objections of the Whitehouse-Longford brigade begin at this fact. Although the underground thinks quite otherwise, neither of these worthies is in the least political; they are sheerly and simply Puritan and wouldn't know a radical alternative from a limited-slip differential, and where the law allows them no scope they can have no influence beyond that conferred by innate authority: i.e., practically zero.

I have known Richard Neville for years and have always admired his honesty: his intelligence (which apparently earned him an extra three months in the slam, if I read Judge Argyle aright) is tenacious rather than quick, but he faces facts once he has worked them out. In his book *Play Power* there were already signs that he had recognized the dangers the underground might face through violent confrontation. He was already betting on establishing a plump, healthy parasite alternative within the body of a tolerant host. When people started jumping bail after he had posted his own money for them, he regretted fast enough—and in *Oz* too—that he had ever recommended sharp practice.

The editorial policy of *Oz* has always been to have no policy: they'd shove anything in, not excluding the ravings of the madder situationists or the bomb plots of crazed, desperate Americans. But I never heard that the *Oz* editors as a group had any idea of encouraging organized violence in this country. Their double-think about Britain was too impregnable for that: they never doubted that this hopelessly corrupt, repressive capitalist system was anything other than fundamentally reliable, tolerant and pluralist. Revolutionary in rhetoric, *Oz* and all its off-shoots are revisionist to the core.

Until recently there was an interesting situation evolving in the underground press. *Time Out* had moved up to a just-below-the-overground (call it interface) position where it started providing news and services in a recognizable and useful radical mode. *Ink* had been launched as an interface newspaper and after a typically chaotic start (everything around Neville is pure Keystone Cops) had begun to improve. Below these, down in the old underground, *Oz*, *IT* and the rest were facing the possibility that the underground was here to stay—that it was part of the life of the country and needed to work out what kind of influences it could exert. I don't think I'm being optimistic or smug in saying that the underground was maturing. If society had rational interests it would have been within those interests to protect this maturing process by leaving it alone. But as the underground began to find out all over ag underestimate your opponen attribute rational coherence "system": it is not perfectly ent, it is far from rational a no reliable means of know own interests.

In late March a wave of p tions and book-shop raids be was left to the underground p report the speed and weight wave, and now the under press itself is starting to under the pressure. The which made life difficult for particularly piquant: the were pulled in on an obsc for allowing homosexuals to to one another in the small far as I know, there is noth proscribes this in any law of and by the same logic th should be conducting lightning on public lavatories and away van-loads of cubicle do

Under the obscenity la people are being charged offences they will not be a have committed until the verdict. This is against the spirit of the legal system in th try and has its proper place police states. Under the o law, defence counsel is ask for a wider context to into consideration (the pub etc.) and so imply that in the context the object in ques well be obscene. This places fence in a difficult position occasion virtually aligns prosecution. Under the law, the police are enc behave like Dogberry, and is obliged to indulge in philo investigations that are b competence, and would b the competence of Hegel totle trapped together for in the Library of Congress.

The first penalty of the trol is to make the contro a clown. Already we are from the moment when so grown equivalent of Erik will support the evidence of pot-bust with books o private shelves. Neville h bail, which postpones the moment, but if his appea be turned down, there migh any need to cap his life stretch by sending him Australia could already be

Clive James is an Au critic, journalist and br who has lived for ten Britain.

CAMP COMMANDER

Stuart Lauder

'I enjoyed Camp Commander enormously . . . This new Stuart Lauder is one of my most looked forward to literary events. What a good book it is!' ANGUS WILSON £1·75

Longman

Matter out of place

TERENCE McLAUGHLIN:
Coprophilia or "A Peck of Dirt"
182pp. Cassell. £2.10.

The slogan, "You'll have to eat a peck of dirt before you die," was popular with Edwardian nannies. They used it as a rune against fussiness, never, of course, as an incitement to coprophilia or its dreaded extreme, coprophagy. In spite of his title Mr McLaughlin only touches on psychoanalytical aspects; sensationalists may note that his book is not a study of the perversion of dung-loving but a lively historical essay on Dirt—correctly and prophylactically defined as "matter out of place"—English dirt throughout the ages.

Naturally the disposal of excrement plays an important part. The streets of medieval London were often its sewers. Such public conveniences as existed could be death-traps. An early martyr in the annals of public health was Richard the Raker who fell through the rotten planks of a latrine while pursuing his *triste métier* and was drowned. In 1347 two men were prosecuted for piping ordure into a neighbour's cellar; presumably this was a genuine if irresponsible attempt at drainage and not a practical jape. The notorious Fleet river was choked for centuries with filth; and its banks, along what is now Farringdon Street, were piled high with the entrails of animals from the butchers. These eventually found their way into "Sweet Themmes" which is today enriched with lethal industrial as well as human and animal waste. Indoor hygiene was equally haphazard. Filth was conserved by the practice of strewing rushes and leaving them unchanged.

The history of sanitation for the rich takes us from the elaborate Tudor commodes—Edward VI's was covered in black velvet, decked with ribbons and quilting tacked down with 2,000 gilt nails—to Sir John Harington's famous water-closet, well ahead of its time although Leonardo da Vinci was first in the field. Typically, perhaps, the nearest English approach to the bath, which the water-loving Romans had installed everywhere, even on the Wall, quickly became the brothel. William Walworth, Lord Mayor of London in the reign of Richard II, owned eighteen of these Stews in Southwark. This is something that children's history-books omit when they tell how he was knighted for saving the boy king's life at Smithfield, being so quick on the draw and killing Wat Tyler. Tyler, in fact, had been laying waste the Lord Mayor's highly profitable brothels which were managed for Flemish "Froes", or mode McLaughlin might have sa more about the sweating where they practised the s of the "tub-fast" (Shake *Timon*) which was part of t abethan treatment for Along with the flea-born p the louse-carried typhus, to he does dwell, the pox co have been featured in a squ ical survey; even if only lig *en passant*.

His catalogue, however, rich. After a sniff at the bod of a Restoration gallant glance at the Swiftian horro blowsy nymph's dressing-ta leads us into the nineteenth Here, though the middle cla indubitably cleaner, the pox anything dirtier than Bleak "Hell is a city—much like Lo and a study of the personal ness of an indigent suggests little advance on the Ages. The last chapter deal today with chemical pollu have nothing to be com about. "No fish can swi Ingham's River Tame and into the Irwell you will be hospital and stomach There is still an awful lot out of place, perhaps ever."

Cesare Beccaria

Change for the better

ANCO VENTURI:
pia and Reform in the Enlighten-
nt
pp. Cambridge University Press,
60

ANCO VENTURI's short book of Trevelyan Lectures, enjoyable though much of it is, will be d far from easy going. A second ing is essential, and a third still k more of his meaning. The tes must have been very hard take in as delivered and difficulty arises from their very merits. we have learnt to expect from author, the erudition they emy is immense and often novel in direction and revelations. No lish scholar of the Enlightenment anything approaching Professor turi's knowledge of recondite erial and out-of-the-way authors. the profusion with which he gs this to bear does not make it r to follow his arguments, telling apt though his evidence often es when closely considered.

nother of Professor Venturi's cteristics in scholarly argument at, almost in passing, he scatters ments which bring to bear his -ranging knowledge in crystallins at great authority on topics necessarily central to his theme. se are often among the best es in his books. There is a good fic example early in these lecs, where a discussion of the to *Sapere Aude* disposes of a th of learning and argument in age or two and, in the process, ides a model example of the turi method and manner. etimes this can bring into pertive a major neglected theme: is book, the best example is the ssion of the eighteenth-century of republicanism and its conon with the actual existence of ublican survivals in the United vinces, Genoa, Venice, and elsere. There is, it is true, a diffiy here which cannot be over- within the canvas chosen by fessor Venturi, for the eighth-century picture of the repubcannot be fully understood until e is known about the seventh century, still a dark age of ian historiography into which is only beginning to penetrate. there that the connexion has to made between high Renaissance ilization and the intermittently essful incomprehension of the teenth century. This, neverthe-, is not Professor Venturi's onsibility: he has mastered so h of the original documentation is chosen period that it would olerably unfair to demand that ample) he project backwards ussion of Genoa he gave us *Settecento Riformatore* (rein the *TLS*, June 18, 1970) to venteenth century.

e lectures also have shorts, unfortunately, and the difs of the reader are often just ally connected to these. st place to begin to consider in tracing the structure and ll of the book, both because ortcomings sometimes seem rable from these, and because ot easy to obtain a picture of ok as a whole without reg much of it. (It should be o, at the outset, that Profesnturi has in one respect been erved by his publishers, behe blurb gives an inadequate misleading account of what ok is about.)

ntroduction begins with a sucnd effective disposal of earlier s to mount a global or even front attack on the problem lightenment". The Cassirer h and the work of Peter Gay politely set aside. So is the approach. Instead, Profesturi proposes to move away e pursuit of origins and and to study instead the tions of Enlightenment, the ent of its ideas in the projects of reform. To "examine their function in the history of the eighteenth-century", as Professor Venturi puts it, has a reassuringly concrete feel. It involves a certain de-idealization of the Enlightenment, a restriction of our notice of it to the measurement of its role both as a defence and as a hostile criticism of the various *anciens régimes* with which it was confronted. But though the tendency is welcome after some of the excesses of abstraction, this does not quite dispose of questions of method. It might be urged, for example, that at least a residual "idealist" view, to a greater extent than Professor Venturi would approve, must be inherent in his own method: you cannot detect Enlightenment in action until you know what you are looking for and this implies a definition which, if historical at all, must be based either on criteria imposed by the historians or on contemporary views which might, surely, be described in terms of origins. In fact, Professor Venturi does not always avoid discussions which imply that he has both these in mind at different times.

None the less, the general impression produced by this programme is excellent. Nor, in what follows, is there any risk of the baby being thrown out with the bathwater. Professor Venturi is acutely aware of potential dangers. Too positivist an enthusiasm, for example, for the recent statistical essays of the French Livre et Société School could mean that "the moment of active creation slips by unobserved". (No doubt because of pressure of space, Professor Venturi does not draw attention, by way of balance, to what we may hope to learn from investigations of this order; the more rounded assessment which Professor Darnton recently provided in the pages of the *Journal of Modern History* is helpful here.) There can be no doubt that in avoiding such dangers we could have no better instrument than his rich erudition, tirelessly available in identifying the first appearance of an idea or the significant adumbration of something hitherto implicit. The programme sketched so encouragingly is, the introduction finally tells us, to have a central and particular concern: "To put the problem of the impact of the republican tradition in the development of the Enlightenment."

So far, so good, and there can be few readers who will not by now have felt high expectation about what is to follow. Unhappily, after this lucid and logical preamble, the structure which follows is defective. It is not too much to say that the reader has a sense of its disintegration into components which, well formed as individual items though they may be, are not merely discrete but even incoherent. It is not easy to see why this should be so, and the temptation is to look for a fundamental flaw in the conception of these lectures, but this does not seem to be what has gone wrong. What is increasingly apparent is a lack of unity and thematic direction in exposition. It therefore seems better to trace the arguments more closely in order to understand the failure than to attempt diagnosis at a deeper level.

Professor Venturi follows his introduction with a lecture on kings and republics in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. This is an interesting essay on some commentators of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century. They faced an obvious contrast between the republican states of their own day and those where absolutism triumphed. The observation that in some ways the fossilized republics of the Settecento were, in their relations with France or the Empire, like external versions of the estates and corporations which defined internally the limits of monarchic power is an interesting and provocative one. Other implications were suggested by the United Provinces, whose prosperity and social cohesion pointed to more utilitarian considerations. There is a rather more doubtful step in the inferences when weight is given (as Professor Venturi appears to give it) to the standing and prestige of the republics as a source of strength preserving them: there is a little in this, but it seems more likely that the fundamental preservative was a favourable international situation. When this changed (as it did by 1814) the republics vanished.

This interesting lecture has therefore much to offer. But does it demonstrate that either the republican tradition or reflection on its embodiments really mattered to the movement of thought called Enlightenment? It depends what you mean by "mattered", the lecturer might say. Certainly much was written about the republics, and Professor Venturi has an excellent discussion of Mazzini, a neglected figure. It is not easy to see from this account, on the other hand, that anyone was influenced to action by such writings. Republics might be exhorted to recover legendary past virtues or to adopt policies which would take them nearer to absolutism. Professor Venturi strives to show that the existence and recent presence of living republican traditions was a referent for some enlightened rulers, sometimes stimulating them by its idealism. But this is not very important and accounts for some of the feeling that the promised theme seems to vanish in this chapter, leaving the reader with a sense of disappointment. What it boils down to is an informative anthology of comments and observations on republics by early eighteenth-century authors. It is fair to say that there is a suggestion from Professor Venturi himself that this is all he is hoping to do here.

"English commonwealthmen" is the title of the next lecture, and this sustains in part and a little further the theme of republicanism. The discussion is directed towards demonstrating the importance of an English contribution to European thought, but in so doing it moves away from republicanism and makes much more of free-thinking and deism. This is surely proper, for the evidence Professor Venturi brings forward of an English contribution to European political thinking in the "commonwealthman" tradition is surely slight: Moyle's *Essay upon the Constitution of the Roman Government* was begun in 1694 but had to wait until 1801, it seems, for a French translation—hardly a sign of burning public interest. For Toland, more evidence of a Continental readership can be produced, and certainly a democratic tone can be discerned in his writings, but it is difficult to believe that his specifically political impact (as opposed to the philosophical impact which he made, as did Tindal, Collins and Shaftesbury) leaves a traceable influence in reform. This first group of enlightened intellectuals is important to be sure, but it is not easy to see their connexion with "the impact of the republican tradition in the development of the Enlightenment".

It may be that Professor Venturi would have said more here had he had more space. An odd and perfunctory little paragraph on Holland suggests that he is willing to assume that his listeners do already possess considerable information; it does little more than register that he has not forgotten that important country. He has ruthlessly condensed a few remarks on Radicati, the subject of another of his books, which also indicates that there is much more evidence to bring to bear, had he room. One should beware of expecting a monographic or even a consistently dense treatment from a set of lectures. But it may also be that the

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Oxford University Press

lecture form does not suit a scholar like Professor Venturi, who needs space to convince. As it is, in this section the reader begins to be unsure of the method of proceeding which is offered to him. Uncertainty begins to arise in it about what is really being discussed and about the grounds on which conclusions are formed. A feeling may arise at this point that a certain liturgical quality has crept into the writing, perhaps almost an incantatory one.

Unspecific allusion or the mere mention of an author is taken to make points. There is an extraordinary passage on Disraeli which concentrates feelings of disquiet; there are also references to English thinkers which appear to ignore the possibility that what they wrote must be understood against a specific background which would have to include, for example, assumptions that Protestantism was intrinsically superior to Popery, that the Common Law might guarantee individual liberties better than forms of government, and that many Englishmen in the second half of the seventeenth century had personal experience that whatever republics might be like, they did *not* necessarily entail freedom.

The argument next moves on to the development of the republican tradition between Montesquieu and the French Revolution, but by now the connecting theme is much crumbled. We seem to be left with little except what is named "the ethical aspect of the Republican tradition", the result of a transition from the discussion of institutions to the discussion of moral principles (in which Professor Venturi attributes much to Shaftesbury). The values of humanity and cosmopolitanism are now the landmarks and through Diderot's discovery of Shaftesbury's appeal to the passions we reach anger and tenderness as instruments of social liberation. By now the republican element in the argument is almost lost to view, though we have reached *liberté et l'égalité* (a slogan, Professor Venturi might have noted, which antimasonic writers earlier than this had attributed to the freemasons whose designs they held up for condemnation and ridicule and whose founder they believed to be Cromwell).

For all the interest of Professor Venturi's commentary on this transition, it is difficult not to feel at this stage that he is trying to link too wide a range of ideas and facts by throwing around them a generalization about the republican tradition. Unfortunately, the phenomena are too diverse and it is never clear what the generalization is which can hold them firmly together. With the fourth lecture we are again on much firmer ground, though it is not easy to see a close connexion with what has gone before. This is a discussion of punishment and a very good survey of an important debate; more than any other lecture it justifies the book's title, for visions of utopia and reform were at the heart of it.

Its great figure is Beccaria. He was, we are reminded, not only a compassionate man whose soul was lacerated by a sense of shared responsibility for inflicting punishment. He was also a thinker whose special preoccupation with penology led on to the problems of inequality and property which fundamentally shaped the conception and the treatment of crime. Beccaria was called a "socialist" by one of his critics (though not quite in the modern sense) and was probably the first person so labelled in Italian. From his discussion stemmed a rich flow of suggestions and proposals for reform, some of them anticipating, paradoxically, the coldest utilitarianism and even the horrors of social engineering of later ages.

This lecture is the best part of the book and in some ways stands apart from the rest of it. It is the point at which Professor Venturi does most to connect the discussion of ideas with social reality. What follows in the concluding lecture is a set of scattered notes on the chronology and geography of Enlightenment, drawing (tantalizingly brief) attention to the limits set by neighbourhood and leadership to the first crystallizations of the "sect". The *Encyclopedia* is the key institution, the 1750s the key decade, Paris the central area.

Away from these, there is a brief passage on Scotland (but no mention of the Kirk, which, like English Protestantism, is surely a supremely important differentiating factor if we are to understand this island's link to Enlightenment ?), and some remarks on the diversity of forces making for reform which seem oddly naive. We need no longer be surprised at the ambiguities of the *ancien régime* which might line Jansenists up in support of Joseph II, and historians have long since uncovered the contribution of dyed-in-the wool "unenlightened" bureaucrats to administrative and legal change. With a reminder of the modalities of Enlightenment, of the restriction or amplification offered to it by local environment, Professor Venturi draws to a close. Almost as a last thought, he rides up to the fence of explaining England's part in this but then refuses to take it: "Britain gains, I would say, by being studied in the light of the history of the other European states of the eighteenth century." Who could deny it? But it is a disappointing anticlimax: Toland and the rest have been left far behind, and the remark that Dr Johnson is a native god does not compensate us.

In a more general sense, too, the book ends in the air; it is very difficult, in looking back, to see what its argument was. Here it is worth recalling the author's own words at the outset: "Regarding the history of ideas in the eighteenth century, I should like to throw a little light here and there." This is a frank enough disclaimer and, given the limits of space imposed upon him, a fully acceptable one. We must hope to read him elsewhere on such themes as the Catholic Enlightenment undergoing exploration by Plongeron and von Dülmen, the connexion between intellectual sources and practical reform in the Habsburg dominions investigated by Klingenstein and Brechka, or the perspectives opened by Rosa Mincuzzi's edition of Tanucci's letters. Yet even when the lack of articulation of the book and the pressures of limited space are discounted, it must be admitted that this is not Professor Venturi at his best.

He is a fluent English speaker and his lectures' delivery can have presented him with no problems, yet it may be true that some lack of clarity has crept in through the necessity of presenting in a foreign tongue thoughts Professor Venturi must often have had in Italian. This may explain a certain blandness which on occasion becomes obscurity: it is very hard to see what Toland's failure "to overcome the final crisis of the ancient European republics" means, or to believe that much of importance lies in the information that Giannone "continued thinking" of Toland in prison, or to feel that a sentence about Milan, where "utopias and reforms polarized the attention" is anything but a rather tired end to a paragraph which is something of a catalogue. At its worst this sort of thing becomes almost a caricature of the bad general historian: "In Scotland, a great intellectual movement was about to be born while London resounded to the cry of 'Wilkes and Liberty!'"

Such a reference says nothing of relevance to the theme and is not the only occasion on which Professor Venturi has wasted some of his precious space. The paragraph that follows this quotation brings Wilkes in again, together with the *motin de Esquilace*, the 1764 famine at Naples, the end of the Seven Years' War and much more. All this is justified, presumably, by an earlier remark: "It was not only the intellectuals who were in turmoil." Unfortunately, the connexion of these excitements with the intellectuals is left out (it would be, one must guess, very hard to establ the impression given is, fo one of padding. A relativ throw things away appa specifically in a quotatio John Mills about the style of Government which is certain esting, but also as isolated incomprehensible without fur formation. It seems irrelevan argument and only to b because it was discovered.

It is reasonable to mak criticisms because Professor V does so well the business of and intellectual scholarship th irritating to see his space w fishing for red herrings. E flattering references to othe ars (a huge number are me often very kindly, in the text, as in his rich footnotes) h irksome because superfluo space would so much bett been used, for example to the curious couple of pa economic history ("In Engla beginning of the industrial tion also profoundly transfo situation"—but *how*, for tuals ?) or to come to grips w of the topics he has had to sa

But the last words must carping. These lectures may widely read, but professional ars will come back to them and again for the passages show Professor Venturi's sk in action on the ground. T packed with indications of which other scholars have noticed and will have to They are indications draw from a vast reading which to Polish and Russian as we the West European languag is it, after all, a textbook offers us, but "a little light there". This he has richly and we all shall see the bett The Trevelyan Lectures proper vehicle for what is set of meditations on aspects of his subject by our Enlightenment scholar. A they will have an enduring the literature.

THE WAY THE WORLD WHIMPERS

Britain in a fictional future is seldom Utopian and has for too long been considered in the idiom of Orwell or Huxley. Some would say that we are virtually in the Brave New World and no-one could deny that 1984 is sufficiently close to allow more accurate prediction than was possible for Orwell.

If possible, however, the prediction has to be gloomier. M. John Harrison's* is that and anarchic as well. There is precious little charity in his world (though there is some), a great deal of violence, and a race which is either physically and emotionally crippled by the effects of the nuclear disaster, or has adapted to its new environment. The mutants are reptilian, alien, persecuted by the surviving humans but immune from the cancer-breeding radiation. Theirs is the future.

It is, like its natural ancestors, a horrid tale. But none the less real and compelling for that. If Eliot was right about the way the world ends, then Mr. Harrison has done a convincing job of filling in the details. This is the way the world whimpers.

Taurus

* The Committed Men, £1.75, New Authors Ltd.

To the Editor

Writers' Lib

Sir,—Mr Fred Plaat (August 6) uses your columns to advertise his publishing firm, Penguin Books, as ideal publishers (this term is "angel"), who give the author everything he can possibly desire, including galley proofs. This claim is unfounded.

My own *John Keats*, after three excellently produced hardback impressions by Heinemann Educational Books, was reset and reprinted by Penguin Books. Neither the original publishers nor myself received any proofs of any sort whatsoever.

As a direct result, the published Pelican paperback contains nearly 100 misprints, some of a most damaging kind, such as the omission of whole lines of text. In addition, the Penguin Books copy-editor has introduced into a well-established text several alterations of his own. These now appear as if I were their author.

Authors, of course, must learn to take the rough with the smooth. Until this experience, I had always dealt with publishers who were intelligent, efficient and conscientious. As Penguin Books have sent me a full and detailed apology, I had intended to treat this as a private matter. Mr. Plaat's public claim, however, leads me to record these facts for the benefit of other authors. In other words, to adopt his own jokey style, Mr Plaat is talking through his haat (*TLS* compositors, please get that one right!).

ROBERT GITTINGS.

Dodds, East Dean, Chichester.

Sir,—The letters in your recent issues from authors and publishers about galley proofs seem to me to miss the point.

The increasing costs of printing, the increasing number of published titles (and hence the declining market for each title), and the rising overhead costs of publishers have created a dangerous inflation in book prices. It is dangerous because it threatens the stability of the publishing trade, and because it undermines the book-buying habit.

Costs must clearly be kept down if hardback publishing is to survive at all. Julian Symons writes that "authors, too, live, just as painfully, in a world of rising costs". (Would he delete some of those commas in the galley proof ?) Can he not see that the interests of author and publisher, in keeping prices down and encouraging a market for hardback books, are identical ?

The truth is, surely, that galley proofs are a luxury, delightful if it can be afforded, but expendable. Authors are having to learn this unpalatable truth because their survival, no less than that of publishers, depends on it. It is far cheaper to have a typescript retyped more than once than to correct galley proofs, and since most authors have to bear the cost of proof correction above a certain limit the economy is more than ever in their interest.

Fortunately there are still many kinds of book where the luxury of galleys can be afforded: books with a high initial print-run, for example, or where the market is easily identifiable and not too price-conscious. There are others, involving complex design or technical or printing problems, where they are a necessary expense. In such cases we behave like Mr Symons's angels. We provide galleys where they are needed or can be afforded. We would be foolish to behave otherwise in the contemporary climate of publishing.

JULIAN SHUCKBURGH.

George Weidenfeld & Nicolson Ltd., 5 Winsley Street, Oxford Circus, London W1N 7AQ.

Library Training

Sir,—Your correspondent, D. E. Davinson (July 23), is unhappy about the SCONUL trainee scheme which aims to place honours graduates in academic and government libraries to give them experience prior to obtaining professional qualifications at a school of librarianship.

One might argue with his definition of "trainee" and still more with his constant reference to the old-fashioned concept of library training rather than library education. From the SCONUL viewpoint, however, other of his statements must be refuted. It is made quite clear to prospective SCONUL trainees, in preliminary information and again when being interviewed, that the scheme is run independently of library schools. No applicant is misled into believing that a trainee post guarantees a place in a library school.

The "pretty poor salaries" under the scheme range from £700 to £1,150 in 1971-72. For people who will not be able to make a full contribution to the work of the library during their trainee year, these salaries would seem to be reasonable.

Mr Davinson blames university librarians that there are no arrangements for joint interviews, so that the successful candidate for a trainee post could be guaranteed a subsequent library school place. Mr Lace's letter (July 23) shows opposition from another quarter, but there are procedural difficulties of which Mr Davinson should be aware. A librarian would need to select one school for his trainees and this would give the student no freedom of choice. Further, at present candidates are interviewed by librarians over a three to four-month period before final degree results are announced. If schools will give firm places only after results are known there would be intolerable delays for the candidates.

If, of course, the Association of British Library Schools were able to agree on a joint clearing-house scheme for applications, functioning like UCCA or the SCONUL trainee scheme, some of these problems might be more easily solved. Let us stop hunting for villains and seek solutions instead.

KENNETH HUMPHREYS.

Chairman, Standing Conference of National and University Libraries, The Main Library, University of Birmingham.

Penguin European Poets

Sir,—It was heartening to read the serious and penetrating review of the Penguin European Poets series (August 6). Such a balanced examination of this excellent series in a major periodical is long overdue. Nevertheless, a few doubts and queries are prompted by your reviewer's references to a discernible modern European poetic tradition as manifested in the so-called "poetry of survival" (a term given t as your reviewer states, by A and it would perhaps be not priate to raise them here.

Firstly, however, as regar poetry translation boom of rece it is hard to say what cam desire to widen our island based on a growing dissatisfa our somewhat obsolete insula realization that much current verse was translatable, becaus reviewer says, it works throu that "can detach themselves without serious loss, from the in which they were expresse other words, do we not, in fac translate what translates read secondly, are we not, in our fe insularity, in danger of seizing which is merely most easily acc

For some time, and as ed *Modern Poetry in Translation* (zine I started with Ted Hu 1964, about the time Penguin were embarking on their E Poetry series), I have been mu occupied with the need to ass certain intellectual currents out of Europe, in particular the tarian world of Central and E Europe. The process of assi may now seem to some of u complete, and we are urged assured that we now have ou members in the club of Europe vival poets. This seems to be the question as to whether it priate for us to join this clu whether, indeed, we want to "survival poetry" does refe very real and important phen is not, I think, deniable, but th it represents is maybe in dan becoming, here at least, a ba on to which our native-bred poe hurl themselves with all too abandon. It seems to me reason why "survival poetry" to become merely fashionable vehicle for the opportunists licity seekers, is because our experience *is* different to that European cousins. Some of undersigned among them have been beating our breasts a bit enthusiastically in comparing to our own disadvantage, Europeans. Can it not equ be argued that English exp also valuable, having the beware of heroes, to solutions, cherish [illegible] the gradual, &c. Or try to understand the [illegible], and of course we cannot lves to be influenced by it. am sure it is a mistake for us k to the European maelstrom own solutions. And a Euro- ould be the first to agree with

ps one should look a little more at this homogeneous poetry of Europe, a poetry that, in your 's words, "tends towards bare-statement, ironies, a leaning to m or an emergence from it, a a quiet insistence on being owever briefly, and perhaps by other poets". This descrip- I think, certainly accurate of of the poets published in Pen- Modern European Poets, but we base our view of contem- European poetry as a whole on ction of poets presented in the -series ? It should at least be ered that it was the advisory of this series, A. Alvarez, him- o gave the term "poetry of " currency here. In other we may be in danger of getting in a circle of concepts and not ble to see beyond them.

nk it should be born in mind ose poets represented in the series that have made a par- impact here (Herbert, Popa, for instance) are now in their late forties; they are *literally* n of survival, having survived eidal tremor, the Second World and having subsequently been into the nightmare totalitarian predicted by Kafka among In England, we escaped a great what went to form their atti- and philosophies. The war was , psychologically, just another in the heroic island story; *our* are *afterwards*—it is going on though it has taken that long s reverberations to reach us. ly we begin to see the truth of etry emanating from the war- generation of Europe, but we m trying to assess it, recall that largely the poetry of the middle ation of European, particularly n and Central European, poets. sks oneself, indeed, whether the postwar anti-art, anti-romantic, anabstic, absurdist (call it what ou) movement need necessarily ent more than a kind of shock ponse to the political, economic al realities of postwar Europe ? here is the beginning of a cure sickness of our civilization—the for a hard, real core, the search ntity in a godless age—but surely ly a beginning. After the anti- must come the poetry; after his survived, where is it to go ? I am saying really is that we beware of a new dogmatism of peration! It is good that man king into himself, is examining he has, what he has inherited, ly and honestly, but he cannot entirely on his own without ce to society, to his traditions, is not possible to reforge every- new. May not European civi- n after all resume its interrupted ? In any case, the possibilities ies as infinite as they ever have

DANIEL WEISSBORT.

urayne Gardens, London.

Your reviewer (August 6) cen- . B. Leishman's translation of "Orpheus. Eurydice. Hermes" reproducing effects of "drama- ment" supposedly produced in al by the word order. In two examples discussed owe order to the operation of the German grammar. The sen- what they would be in prose, naturalness is part of the the poem. In his first our reviewer reproduces the correctly, by omitting a vital ronoun. The phrase should

er grosse, graue, blinde Teich,
seinem fernen Grunde hing
mmel über einer Land-
schaft.

erb *hing* is not "pendant at because Rilke was seeking cular effect, but because it ormal grammatical position erb in a relative clause, at beginning with the pro-

cond example the German gain quite normal. The ns with a subordinate ning with the conjunction ndes der Blick", &c.), and rrectly come at the end of the last of the four being This verb is immediately the main verb of the ence "blieb . . . zurück". efix "zurück" being a part and not of the subject as r seems to think ("its sub- trails away enacting the

Rilke in his poems often rts from normal syntax; in sages in question he does and Leishman was surely right to adopt a normal word order in English (would that he had done so more often !). I cannot see that anything of importance has been lost in translation because of the difference between a word order normal in German and another order, equally normal, in English.

ALEXANDER HENDERSON.

Cedar House, Monteith Close, Langton Green, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Morrell Studies

Sir,—I agree with Mr Chitnis, there is little point in prolonging this. But he chooses to reveal (August 6) that my correspondence with the chairman of the Morrell Trustees became "so offensive" that he had to take it over and subsequently told me that a meeting with the Trustees would then only take place if "the Trustees think it necessary", contrary to the clear previous promise. He omits to mention that he told me this *after* the submission went in, and that my comment, "I rather expect the whole thing to fall through", was written *after* they had failed to raise a quorum for the meeting which they had earlier presented to me as an absolute—and a very much accelerated—deadline. However offensive I may have been, I still see this as a clear breach of a crucial undertaking.

"Offensive" is, fortunately, a relative term. I was certainly far from passive in defence against, firstly, the intrusion of a particular Trustee into matters of philosophical and historical judgment in which he had had no formal training; and, secondly, against the chairman of the Morrell Trustees when he refused to tell me even the subject-matter of another grant made by the Rowntree Social Service Trust, on which he also sits. This proved to be very much in the same field. Surely there should be no secrecy about the subject-matter of grants given by publicly registered charities ? I have never argued in these (readers may recall) *toleration* studies that tolerance could possibly mean taking whatever comes, but that tolerance is holding strong opinions, but in a persuasive manner, not in a coercive or an insulting one.

My last word is that a scholar has a right to the observation of some rules of natural justice in dealings with trustees of registered charities, particularly when they approach the scholar to do something and not vice versa. "Offensive" is, indeed, a relative term. But it was no use for Dr Johnson to have emancipated letters and learning from the aristocratic embrace if Mr Chitnis implies that a subserviency similar to that which Lord Chesterfield required should now be given by scholars to such trusts. Or, are they to have the best of both worlds, the right to the taxation privileges of charities and to the erratic patronage of the rich ?

BERNARD CRICK.

24 Denning Road, London, NW3

Chatterton

Sir,—One particularly interesting and timely aspect of your excellent review of the *Complete Works of Thomas Chatterton* (July 23) is your reviewer's discussion of Chatterton's device for presenting his forgeries, which he calls "the manuscript convention". Since scholars and antiquarians are more plagued at present by forgeries of all kinds than at any time in the recent past, it may be worthwhile to comment on this method of forgery. Your reviewer says more than anybody I know about the tradition in the romantic novel of claiming a spurious "ancient" manuscript as a genuine literary work. However, since the tradition is older than printing itself and has flourished under quite diverse circumstances, perhaps it is incorrect to suggest that it proceeds, as with Chatterton, mainly from a desire for "imaginative identification with the past".

Even in antiquity classical works were faked. The *Anacreontea*, for example, were falsely attributed to Anacreon, while the apocryphal *Epistles of Phalaris*, originating from a forged manuscript probably of the second century, escaped definitive exposure until Bentley's magnificent dissertation (1697). In the Renaissance, there were many more forgeries, usually "discoveries" in manuscript of previously missing works by classical authors like Horace, Cicero, and Virgil. These seem to have been produced principally to deceive rather than from a longing to recapture dear dead days. One of the best of these was a forgery by Carlo Sigonius (1524-1584), an antiquarian of Modena. In the words of an eighteenth-century observer (probably Dr Johnson): "He was so great a Master of the Stile of *Cicero*, that he wrote a Treatise *de Consolatione*, and published it as a Piece of *Cicero's* Works newly discovered; many were in Reality deceived by the Counterfeit, which was performed with great Dexterity, but *Lipsius*, having read only ten Lines, threw it away, crying, *Vah! non est Ciceronis!*" Sigonius evidently wanted the prestige of discovering a lost work of Cicero; a similar desire for academic reputation has undoubtedly motivated other scholarly forgeries.

Others have used the manuscript convention for political or polemic purposes. Such was the "discovery" by John Gauden of the manuscript of two previously unknown books of Hooker's *Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity* (Books Six and Eight, which appeared in 1648): Gauden later "found" Book Seven, which he published after the Restoration. The publication of *Eikon Basilike* (1649), purportedly from a manuscript of Charles I, is yet another example of the forgery used for political ends. This is probably one of the most common reasons for deploying the device of the "newly discovered" manuscript.

The convention appears early in prose fiction, most notably in *Don Quixote*, as a method for increasing verisimilitude or satirizing those who foolishly cherish the past. Certainly Cervantes's Arabic manuscript, which he rescues from oblivion and has translated into Spanish, is one of the most impressive antecedents of Chatterton's more deliberate forgery. Writers of thieves' narratives and others who sought journalistic accuracy, like Defoe, adopt a variety of the manuscript convention in much the same way as Cervantes, except that they are more serious practitioners with less interest in the past. Sometimes such a manuscript had to be cleansed of its impurities. So Defoe, anonymously, poses as the editor of the manuscript of *Moll Flanders*; it is not his work but one which has mysteriously fallen into his hands and which, accordingly, requires his corrections.

Perhaps the recurrence, over the centuries, of the manuscript convention as we see it in Chatterton and the late eighteenth century is caused by the zeal of certain periods to make more of the past than the historical evidence will support. But I would suggest that the forgeries of the Renaissance antiquarians, the Shakespearean and other forgeries of the late eighteenth century, and the faked antiques and forged documents of our own century must spring from a mixture of pecuniary, scholarly, imaginative, and psychological needs. Your reviewer deserves credit for calling attention to a subject which badly needs further examination.

PAUL J. KORSHIN.

Department of English, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 19104. USA.

'Irish Bardic Poetry'

Sir,—No mention of Professor Osborn Bergin and Dr D. A. Binchy (August 6) is complete without a verse or two from Myles na gCopaleen's song:

So, forte con brio
Three cheers for the trio,
Binchy and Bergin and Best,
Those friends of Pokorni,
Let's toast in Grand Marnier,
Binchy and Bergin and Best—
Those justly high-rated,
Advanced, educated,
And far from facetious
Three sons of Melesius,
Binchy and Bergin and Best.

TIMOTHY O'KEEFFE.

78 Coleraine Road, London, SE3

Railway Share

Sir,—I don't think any of the "early railway companies had unlimited liability" as Winston Moses suggests (August 6). What happened was that they issued shares of, say, £100 denomination of which only £5 might be "paid up", the rest being "at call". If the shares went up by 50 per cent the holder could get £55 for his £5 investment. But if they went down by 50 per cent he would have to produce at least £45 a share to induce anyone to relieve him of his liability for the remaining £95. This is why Ruskin's father wrote to George Gray, Effie Ruskin's father, describing railroad shares as "Mere Lottery Tickets", and why the lives of at least one young couple, Ruskin and his wife, were dominated by the railroad share market at the end of the 1840s.

MARY LUTYENS.

2 Hyde Park Street, London, W2,

'Classical Influences on European Culture'

Sir,—E. H. Gombrich may safely be left to defend himself against your reviewer's claim that his talk to the Cambridge conference in 1969 "reads like the end of a tradition" (July 30). But it is perhaps worth repeating Gombrich's point that, in making his charge, your reviewer has reversed the sense of a large section of that talk. Nor does he mention Gombrich's final point, that one of the basic problems of the study of the classical tradition is whether the signs of its existence are related to the living experience of the writer or are mere cultural conventions: as I understand it, this point, which is central to Gombrich's personal conception of the classical tradition, is hardly "out of date", for it is also central to the work of those young medievalists reacting to the legacy of E. R. Curtius—and especially perhaps to the thought of my friend Peter Dronke, of whom your reviewer so rightly approves.

But the accusation that the Warburg Institute under the directorship of Gombrich has emphasized art history at the expense of the classical tradition is one which is so ludicrous that it can only have been made by someone almost totally ignorant of the Institute. As Senior Research Fellow in the Classical Tradition at the Warburg for a year, I had a chance to watch closely the workings of the Institute; and I have since sent there a number of pupils, and continued to attend seminars and lectures. In fact the usual accusation against the Institute comes from art historians, and is that insufficient attention is now being paid to art history there. The majority of the permanent staff are not art historians; in recent years the senior and junior research fellowships have been held almost exclusively by people who are not art historians; and the public lectures and seminars at the Institute are largely devoted to intellectual or cultural history, not to art history. These facts can, as Gombrich says, be verified from the published annual reports of the Institute.

Your reviewer's attempt to dispute this by pointing to the fact that recent volumes of the Warburg *Journal* contain more art history than early numbers of the *Vorträge* of the Warburg merely shows his ignorance of the basic facts about the Warburg. For the present journal has been, for a long time before Gombrich became director, the "Journal of the Warburg *and Courtauld* Institutes". And the Courtauld is a straight institute of art history; of course the journal will contain more art history for (as its title indicates) it is half devoted to art history. Anyway, like most learned journals, its articles come from scholars in many institutions, and its contents can scarcely be used as a crude index of what actually goes on in either the Warburg or the Courtauld.

Finally, as someone with personal acquaintance of Gombrich's teaching in graduate seminars, perhaps I may say that it is these seminars which reflect most accurately the wide range of research projects connected with the Institute, and also Gombrich's own mastery of the various disciplines represented there, together with his openness to new ideas from the young, his encouragement of what is promising and worthwhile, and his sympathetic ability to criticize constructively what others might more thoughtlessly condemn as charlatanism or shoddy thought. There is no one in the English-speaking world better qualified to preside over the Warburg Institute, to influence its development, and to further the study of the classical tradition in the modern context.

OSWYN MURRAY.

Balliol College, Oxford.

Siberch

Sir,—After reading your notice of the Siberch celebrations in Cambridge (Commentary, July 30), I must question whether it is right to think of *The Four Elements* as a masque.

The masque, at best, was an elegant diversion for a literate elite. Rastell's interlude (if Rastell was indeed the author) was explicitly aimed at a wider audience, "As well of noble men as of meane estate". The dialogue is painstakingly didactic. The lighter episodes are simply there to "gyve men comfort/ And occasyon to cause them to resort/ To here this matter". As a further lure the author suggests "yf ye lyst ye may brynge in a dysgysynge", but all is evidently subordinate to the overriding purpose of instructing the public. It is absorbing to speculate about the circumstances of its original presentation. Performance at one of the Inns of Court, let alone at Whitehall, would hardly have satisfied the author's aspirations as an educator.

The Four Elements was chosen for the Siberch celebrations because it epitomized the movement towards popular education associated with the New Learning, some of whose protagonists brought Siberch and printing to Cambridge.

ROGER COLEMAN.

The University Printing House, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge.

John Cleland

Sir,—Mr Braudy (February 19, 1971) suggested that the entry for John Cleland in the *Dictionary of National Biography* is misleading. It was warped, he said, by a determination to attribute an "immoral and chaotic youth" to the author of the scandalous and indecent *Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure*. Maybe so; but Cleland did have his troubles after he returned to London in the early 1740s. This is indicated by a jail commitment book in the Public Record Office, showing that John Cleland was sent to the Fleet on February 23 1747 [/8] by Sir Thomas Abney. The entry (Pris. 1/10/194) mentions a debt of some £800 and names two creditors. That this was the novelist is confirmed by the involvement of the Bailiff of St Peter's, Westminster, the district with which Cleland had been linked from schooldays on. It is further recorded that the prisoner was discharged by the plaintiff's attorney on March 6, 1748. True, the debtor's jail was no uncommon affliction for writers or for gentlemen at this period. Samuel Foote, Theophilus Cibber, and a clutch of baronets were near-contemporaries in the Fleet. All the same, it is evident that *pace* Mr Braudy *DNB* has some justification for suspecting that Cleland knew hard times. If his youth was not misspent, it was likely enough over-spent.

PAT ROGERS.

Department of English, King's College, Strand, London, WC2R 2LS.

Next Week:

JAPANESE LITERATURE

Mishima and the Contemporary Japanese Scene, by Donald Keene

Why Read Japanese Literature? by Ivan Morris

The No Theatre, by P. G. O'Neill

The West through Japanese Eyes, by Kenichi Yoshida

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Queen of Tears

HESTER W. CHAPMAN:
Caroline Matilda
221pp. Cape. £2.25.

The last five Kings of Denmark of the Oldenburg line—they reigned from 1746 to 1863—are perhaps too little known to English readers. Their lives would form an interesting study in the enlightened and the obscene. They were all descended from King George II and Queen Caroline, and one of them, King Frederick VI, who was the best though the least fortunate, was also descended from Frederick Prince of Wales. The parents of this King Frederick, who were King Christian VII and Queen Caroline Matilda, form the subject of Hester Chapman's entertaining book, and it would be no exaggeration to say that they provided one of the most scandalous chapters in royal history, not excluding the Roman Empire.

King Christian—in appearance a diminutive reproduction of King George II—was unfortunately afflicted by premature senility and came to rely on the personal ministrations and then the political sway of a handsome doctor, Johann Struensee, with whom the Queen fell in love and by whom she had a daughter. Horace Walpole is no doubt correct in saying that the attractive doctor was "equally dear to both their Majesties". A palace revolution, which drew strength from political feeling as well, resulted in the incarceration of the Queen, the execution with medieval trimmings of Struensee and the parading through the streets in triumph of the unfortunate and idiotic Christian. The British Ambassador threatened war unless the Queen was immediately released: this was done but she was not sent back to England, which would have been natural, but to Celle in her brother's Hanoverian Electorate. Here, where her great-grandmother—George I's wife—had been imprisoned, she beat out the remaining months of her life, dying at the age of twenty-four. In her heyday the Queen, when she was ruling Denmark through Struensee, generally wore male military dress and Horace Walpole amusingly says "she literally wears the breeches, actual buckskin". But although she drew on herself much criticism and some ridicule, she was attractive, vivacious and intelligent and, both at the time and since, many champions have arisen to protest at her cruel fate. As Hester Chapman well says, "she was stretched on the rack of marriage with a lunatic". Sir Nathaniel Wraxall, the author and traveller, who was a species of English Count Fersen, sought to rescue and restore her to Denmark and his son, a Victorian novelist whose works included *Only A Woman—A Study in Neutral Tint*, wrote a serious book exculpating the Queen from the charges brought against her. In this century Caroline Matilda was the subject of a good book by W. H. Wilkins, *A Queen of Tears*.

The story and the fate of the Queen of Tears are not wholly remote from English history. She was aunt to both King George IV and Queen Caroline, and it is likely that her punishment was rather dauntingly present to Queen Caroline when she faced her own trial. In the case of both queens their immediate family did not seem willing or able to help, and it is difficult not to judge King George III for his seeming indifference to his sister's sufferings. Indeed it could be argued that the anti-British feelings of Caroline Matilda's son, which were to lead to great difficulties during the wars with Napoleon, derived from the British treatment of his mother whose memory he cherished. It seems almost incredible that she was not allowed to return to England or encouraged to return there by her own family. The best writers trace here the influence of Queen Charlotte, who was savagely censorious of lapses from conventional morality. Indeed Wilkins specifically says that George III lacked the courage to stand up against "the tempest of his wife's virtuous indignation".

But all these personal events need to be considered against the background of the Danish monarchy which, as Hester Chapman reminds us, was more absolute than even the monarchies of France and Russia. The courts of Denmark, Russia and Sweden were at this time a disgrace to civilization. The sovereigns of them all in the 1760s might have been dismissed with some words of Lord Chesterfield about the King of Sweden—"that northern brute". A writer in the *Annual Register* in 1772, who was possibly Nathaniel Wraxall, warned English people against too readily assuming that the northern nations shared their respect for liberal institutions for in fact their sovereigns were not so much enlightened despots as Asiatic tyrants. Although it can be argued that George III should have realized this before consenting to his sister's marriage, it could help to explain his distaste for his brother-in-law and all his ways, and a feeling of helplessness over events which had submerged his sister.

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Queen of Scots

IAN B. COWAN (Editor):
The Enigma of Mary Stuart
222pp. Gollancz. £2.

Queen Elizabeth I, who had a remarkable gift for a pithy phrase, called her cousin Mary "the daughter of debate". So she was then, and so she has been since—heroine to some, villainess to others, painted in contrasting colours by a long succession of pamphleteers, biographers ,and historians. Calculating politician, adulteress, cold-blooded assassin, treacherous plotter; touching victim of cruel circumstances, passionate lover, devoted daughter of the Church, heroine in the presence of danger and death—to which she was consigned by her jealous cousin. Ian B. Cowan's plan is to illustrate, and if possible deflate, this great controversy with a carefully culled collection of extracts from authors who have contributed to the debate.

The method of anthology brings out strongly what nonsense can be written under the influence of prejudice. Flaccidity of thought, dexterity in smuggling assumptions, can mislead easily *in extenso* but fail miserably under the microscope. Marians and anti-Marians alike are guilty. She was in touch with Babington's conspiracy. What more natural and lawful for an imprisoned queen than to seek release from an unjustified imprisonment, say the Marians; what perfidy, say the anti-Marians, to scheme against the life of her cousin. Contemporary advocates and apologists can be forgiven: they were fighting a p But it is less easy ex parte utterances and twentieth-centur contradicting one ano and confidently on judgment for which the fragmentary and incon who can search the he let alone that of a quee

Mr Cowan's own, m clusion, implied rather in his introductory re torial annotation, is t neither a heroine nor but a professional po time, committed to h trade, and devoting her to it. The words of J. E her final scene, manag truthfulness with respec up this view: "She wa last act, still with a ga without scruple." Th be said about her beha other critical passages

Mr Cowan's work in respects. It provides a and a comprehensive n literature"—though it c course, profess to con tive bibliography of w to Mary; and on a bro graphical front it confe Butterfield's view abou of historical interpre historian "is neither j he is in the position o upon to give evidence study on the concept dict of posterity" wi appropriate than a historiography of M Scots.

Augustan heroine

ROBERT HALSBAND (Editor):
The Selected Letters of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu
310pp. Longman. £3.50.

In 1967 Mr Halsband concluded his complete edition of the letters of Lady Mary Montagu which have so long stood as one of the earliest and greatest monuments to the intellectuality and emancipation of women. Not so exquisite, perhaps, as Madame de Sévigné, but with greater range, Lady Mary has above all a vein of human weakness which makes her letters live with even more vigour than Walpole's. Both the principal men in her life were disastrous, for opposite reasons. Wortley, her husband, with whom she conducted a rational wooing and a sedate elopement, turned out to be a prig and a bore. Francesco Algarotti, at whom she passionately threw herself in middle age, was a lightweight, and quite probably a homosexual.

Mr Halsband does not indicate the basis on which these letters have been selected, but th clearly intended to Mary's personal q than her intellectual such it is a hand produced affair, the strained and the intro helpful without being

Lady Mary was in least in her stoicism possible to read these being impressed by the and restraint with w counters misfortune crush most moderns: her marriage; the exile insanity of the sister was devoted; the fa to make any impr world; her own he the worthless Algaro her good looks thro All these are felt, ar But they are encounte were, breasted. Ther hint of self-pity from other—only, from tir wry smile. Altogether ever a fearless wom at the same time no emotion, it was Lady

Unsnubbable hidalg

TRESHAM LEVER:
Lessudden House, Sir Walter Scott and the Scotts of Raeburn
184pp. The Boydell Press. £2.75.

I have little to say in excuse of Maxie's conduct except that he is a sort of original which exists here and there in Scotland, a good gentleman-like honorable man in all his feelings, but beset with the two great national evils Pride and Poverty. He is a Scottish Hidalgo with a high sense of his own hereditary consequence, an idea that all the world must or ought to be occupied in attending to the fate of himself and his family with a slight occasional suspicion that this is not the case so much as it ought to. He has never been able exactly to understand how I came to become a baronet being only a cadet of his family.

The describer is Walter Scott; the man described is his cousin Willie Scott of Harden. That he was the occasion for such letters from Walter Scott (ever at pains to help poor Willie to a job, as Collector of Cess for Roxburgh or Sheriff-Substitute for Selkirk) is today the most interesting thing about him Tresham Lever he is " ture", but Sir Tresham Willie Scott's family h sudden, and in telling h to take what he finds.

The oldest parts of handsome house belon of the sixteenth centu of Harden were raiders; but by 16 gentler tastes had and provided Lessu baroque staircase w admired in *Country* the chronicle is of interest, but the thre Willie Scott's deal famous cousin includ unpublished letters stances of Walter Scott and helpfulness and instances of his difficulty of providi who has no profess views is so great to impossibility Hidalgo was

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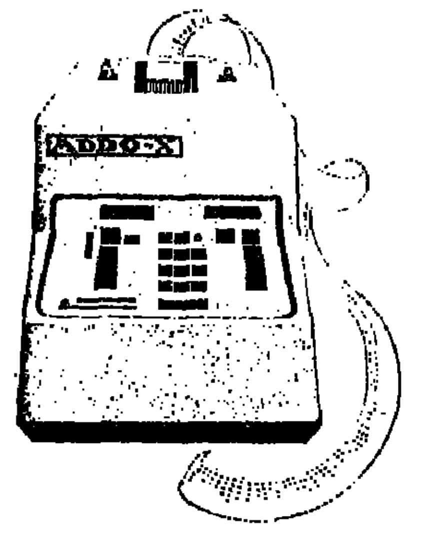
HINKING BY NUMBERS: 2

The mathematics of style



D. R. TALLENTIRE

o a culture accustomed to ecise measurement of quantities, even of such vast ones as lar distances, the idea that tive inquiries must also ultiyield a final numerical solunot alien. However, for many oncept of objective analysis in ative arts remains a repugand nonsensical notion, since ve artistic works attest to the hat genius (at least at times) ods the rational world and its laws, upon which quantitaalysis depends.

the lure of quantification for ts of English literature in cular is easy to understand, if o condone. When one realizes, horror, that a new article on er has appeared somewhere in orld every day for the past ry on average, yet that none of articles can claim a definitive nor escape probable supercesthe attraction of an objective ology of criticism becomes As early as 1892, for exam- L. A. Sherman attempted to through quantification a permanent niche in the halls olarly fame than is usually ed the critic. From a senength study of Macaulay's be announced to a sceptical "Here, then, in this 23.43 resultant of the forces which de Macaulay's literary char- (the figure 23.43 being the number of words per senthe work sampled).

computational analysts of re less rash in their claims, ist in their methods with the dge that one irrefutable fact weigh the most impressive e argument in a field saturh often ill-substantiated opiMoreover, today's reader of criticism has been condiby a computerized world to bjective analysis and is apt satisfied with conjecture.

summarized the impetus computational analysis of it is reasonable to ask an hope to achieve. While the few clear successes in dies of author attribution, to say that no scholar has ed a method with sufficient ation even to distinguish y the work of one writer of a contemporary, much efine a style adequately. kett" is apt to resemble ce" as closely as "later and tests of value in th one set of texts often irrelevant to others. stylistic traits initially be highly characteristic nor usually prove, under gent analysis, to depend straints of genre, subject And, it must be pointed ire notion of "style" is a . In default of an adequate background with which a work can be contrasted, any work is stylistically neutral. Hence, until the preliminary (and herculean) task of establishing norms for all relevant periods, genres and related language constraints is completed, the formulation of objective indexes of style for individual writers or works must prove an ephemeral activity.

Traditional detractors of computer stylistics feel that studies based only upon the printed page neglect the interaction of author and reader, by which style may be said to be perceived. If one accepts this premise, that literature is dormant until it meets a kindred intellect, that it lives only in the response of a sympathetic reader, then one must certainly deny the probability of adducing a style from objective facts about the composition of words or sentences. However, in the brief space this occasion allows, it will better serve to counter misconceptions at the root of computational stylistics by means of specific arguments.

My own colours must be hoisted at the outset. I confess to having myself conducted experiments aimed at mechanizing some facets of criticism, and remain convinced that the objective computational analysis of literature can be a viable adjunct to traditional criticism. My examination of methods currently in vogue in computational stylistics has, however, done little to assure me that its exponents have at all addressed themselves to truly stylistic problems in literature.

In a recent academic forum, I voiced objections to various mathematical models conceived as mere analogues of style, which are purveyed as truly objective measures indigenous to the literature to which they are applied. I also attacked the mentality that equates the measurable in literature with the significant, and argued that a style of writing might be readily perceived by a reader, yet defy quantification entirely. In the interests of maintaining a more comprehensive argument for general readers, I will here restrict my remarks to one (albeit the most popular) approach to computational stylistics, that of lexical analysis.

The "word" is a natural choice for computational studies, since it is relatively unambiguously defined and is, after all, a convenient unit of raw data provided by the author himself. Consequently, the works of most major authors have been subjected to "word-level" studies of one sort or another, aided by the statistical data that concordances provide. However, we have as yet added little to our knowledge because of fundamental misconceptions regarding "style".

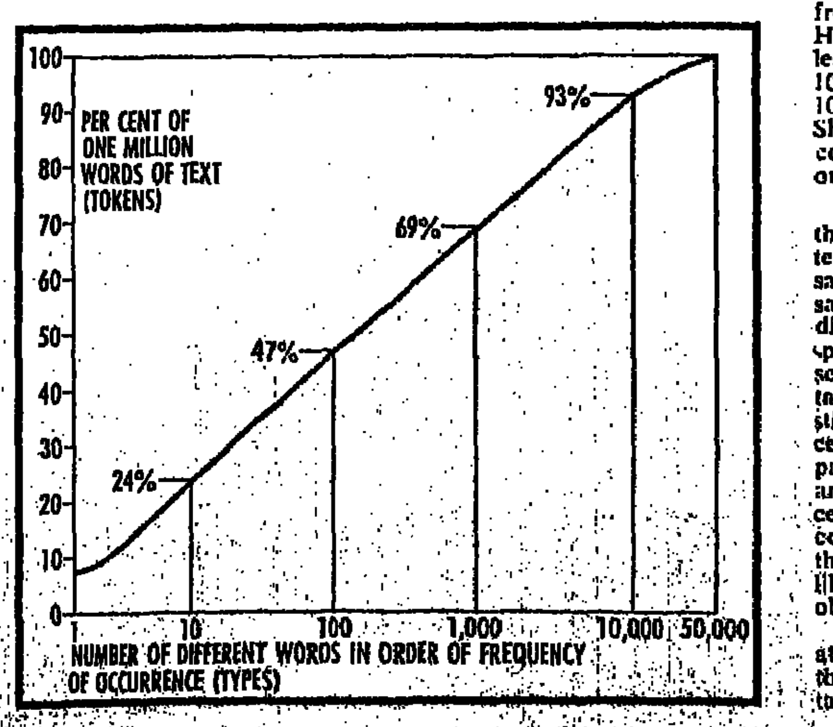
Basic to the concept of individual styles of writing has been the notion that different authors use different vocabularies. The literature of stylistic analysis abounds with proposed measures of "vocabulary size" and "richness", yet it has never been clearly established that lexical differences between writers play major (or even significant) roles in defining stylistic uniqueness. We may safely conclude that sufficient words exist to ensure radically different vocabularies for every writer of English. But to what extent do writers in fact exhibit discrete vocabularies?

In order to answer this question, and to emphasize its importance in lexical analysis, it is necessary to introduce a few definitions and some statistics. Potentially, the number of words in the vocabulary of English is infinite—or at least in excess of 26 to the 26th power, the word permutations possible in a language with 26 letters which allows words to vary in length from one letter to 26 letters (taken as a practical limit). One could argue that many of these permutations would violate both the laws of word formation and of probability, but if one accepts as a word Joyce's 100-letter "bababadalgharaghtakamminarronnkonnbronntonnerronntuonnthunntrovarrhounawnskawntoohoohoordenenthurnuk!" (from the opening of *Finnegans Wake*) then few others could be banned. Of the nearly infinite word possibilities, though, it has been calculated (by Henry Kučera and W. Nelson Francis in their *Computational analysis of present-day American English*) that only 340,000 different graphic forms (types) will exist in our language at any one time (*hell, hells, hell's, he'll* are all different types, as are *bare* and *bear*, but the different meanings of *bear* do not constitute separate types). This figure is compatible with the contents of our largest dictionary, the *OED*, which lists more than 300,000 different types, though not, of course, the unusual items extant only in isolated contexts, which might swell the figure to the expected total. If we take the practical lexicon of English to be, then, 340,000 words, let us consider the proportion utilized by different writers, and a closely related question—to what extent the vocabularies of writers overlap.

As will be shown, even our most prolific and admired writers seldom exhibit more than 30,000 different types in a lifetime of writing. Of course their latent vocabularies (the words known though not necessarily used) far exceed this number, but scholars have only the tip of the iceberg to study. For example, although an author will use extremely common words like "bread" and "butter" almost daily, it would not surprise us to find these words missing in his published work, which allows the possibility that the words were *not* known to the author. In short, the computational analyst of literature must confine his observations to "revealed" vocabulary, and such data unfortunately look very similar for every writer of English literature.

To illustrate, I give below a graph (the figures come from Kučera and Francis) of the number of different words (types) comprising a given percentage of a representative corpus of one million words of English text (tokens).

In brief, the graph shows that a single word ("the") occurs about 70,000 times per million words of text (in fact "the" will comprise about 7 per cent of any piece of written English, regardless of genre, subject or length of sample). Together with the next nine words of highest frequency it comprises over 24 per cent of English texts, though the ten words may not always be the same (and almost certainly will differ in order) in different genres. About 135 words recur with sufficient frequency to constitute 50 per cent of most texts, though which 135 one finds again depends on constraints such as genre and subject. The analyst's problem is to find at which point on a graph having no discontinuities the author begins to make his presence felt above the pervading influence of the language he uses. It can be argued that as early as the word with rank two (that with the second highest frequency in a sample) discrepancies among authors can arise, even among writers within a common period and genre.



To illustrate this point with reference to modern poets, Emily Dickinson's second most frequent word is "a", while W. B. Yeats's is "and". The normal word of rank two (as listed both in counts of English and American) is "of", "a" ranking fifth with "and" third. It is tempting to interpret such data as evidence of Emily Dickinson's poetic disdain of conventional syntax, yet when a ranking list of her first ten words is compiled it proves to contain *all* ten of the highest-frequency words of one of the standard corpuses. Hence, if one wished computational support for a thesis that she was highly personal and not of the common herd, one would cite her unusual predilection for "a"; to prove her conventional one need only point to her rigid adherence to a general trend in words comprising 25 per cent of her total canon.

In fact, while an author, at least in theory, is free to choose whatever vocabulary set he wishes, several aspects of normal word-frequency distribution tend to ensure that a great number of his words will be shared with all other writers. First, the frequency order of occurrence of vocabulary items is much the same for any sample (that is all authors use "the" most frequently, followed by "of, and, to, a, in, that . . ." in slightly varying order). Moreover, while most of the 340,000 theoretically extant words of English have in fact been used somewhere (since they are listed in the *OED*) only a very small percentage have ever been incorporated into English literature, since the context of literature tends to exclude certain word classes. For example, Shakespeare's prodigious output comprises only 29,066 different words, according to Marvin Spevack in *A Complete and Systematic Concordance to the Works of Shakespeare* (6 vols, Hildesheim: Georg Olms, 1968). And, unfortunately, the truly interesting stylistic problems usually arise in works possessing a common genre, context and period, since it is pointless to correlate differences between, say, a treatise on radio astronomy and an Elizabethan sonnet.

Yet another tendency of vocabulary-distributions ensures that an author will not establish a very different vocabulary from that of his fellows. It happens that although writing output differs enormously, different authors still, by and large, employ vocabularies of approximately the same size. This surprising trend is simply explained. As a writer expands his canon, he naturally adds some words that have not occurred previously, but these new additions will each be used only once or twice while the bulk of the increase will comprise previously used types, many from the very high-frequency range of vocabulary. Hence Shakespeare's vocabulary is less than three times larger than the 10,666 types of W. B. Yeats, or the 10,097 of Matthew Arnold, though Shakespeare's total works (tokens) comprise more than six times the output of either poet.

Such findings emphasize the fact that the bulk of any sample of written English is accounted for by the same few words, recurring with the same relative frequency even in very different writings. Though Shakespeare's revealed vocabulary represents less than 10 per cent of the extant 340,000 words of English, it still accounts for more than 90 per cent of the words appearing on any page of literature we care to examine. This phenomenon, that 10 per cent of the vocabulary of English covers 90 per cent of the text of all the volumes of literature in all our libraries, is perhaps the most serious obstacle facing quantification.

Recently, analysts of style have attempted to minimize the effect of this phenomenon by examining the tail of the graph presented earlier.

AUTHOR	SOURCES OF DATA	HIGH-FREQUENCY CORRELATION		LOW-FREQUENCY CORRELATION	
	[1]*RELATIVE FREQUENCY OF ENGLISH SPEECH SOUNDS* (G. DEWEY) [2]CORNELL CONCORDANCE SERIES (ed. S. M. PARRISH) [3]*CONCORDANCE TO THE POEMS OF G. M. HOPKINS* (ed. A. BORRELLO) [4]*A WORD-INDEX TO JAMES JOYCE'S ULYSSES* (ed. M. L. HANLEY)	NO. OF WORDS IN AUTHOR'S *FIRST 10* FOUND IN FIRST 10 OF NORM[1]	NO. OF WORDS IN AUTHOR'S *FIRST 25* FOUND IN FIRST 25 OF NORM[1]	NO. OF Q-INITIAL WORDS *OCCURRING ONCE* IN:	NO. OF THESE THAT OCCUR ONCE IN ONE OR MORE OF 6 REMAINING AUTHORS
ARNOLD	COMPLETE POEMS[2]	NO DATA	NO DATA	24	13
BLAKE	COMPLETE POEMS & PROSE[2]	8	19	13	12
BYRON	*DON JUAN*[2]	6	17	51	20
DICKINSON	COMPLETE POEMS[2]	10	17	22	14
HOPKINS	COMPLETE POEMS[3]	8	16	20	9
JOYCE	*ULYSSES*[4]	8	19	82	19
YEATS	COMPLETE POEMS[2]	8	16	17	6

They reason that if the domain of high-frequency words is governed mainly by the demands of genre, syntax, period and subject, the effects of an author's idiosyncrasies must be maximized in the domain of lowest-frequency words, those that appear only once per major work, or even once in an author's entire works. S. M. Parrish in his concordance to the poems of Yeats undoubtedly encouraged this approach by observing that some of the poet's most memorable words proved to be used once only. However, while admitting that vocabulary differences among authors due to differences in genre or syntax are minimized in the area of low-frequency word occurrences, we can point to powerful reasons why investigations of this domain will also fail.

First, since no word occurs more than once per major work, its influence in proportion to the total words is likely to be minimal unless it operates as a thematic connective in the reader's mind, recalling other, in themselves unmemorable, items. While it is quite possible that such a process underlies our perception of style, it is not reasonable to suppose that quantitative approaches will illuminate it. Either one operates with the words "used once" as a class (in which case the analytic potential of individual words is lost) or one focuses upon specific words. If the latter course is chosen, one must then compare specific words with related word-lists from relevant control texts in order to ascertain whether words are truly distinctive of an author or not. But, if a word occurs only once or twice in an author's canon, the fact that it does not occur at all in another's is largely irrelevant—"one in a million" and "none in a million" are statistically equal. Then too, "once words" exhibit surprising quirks, as yet little understood.

To illustrate some of these hazards, I examined words used once (in entire [illegible] where data were given) in five poets of the Cornell concordance series. To make my data more comprehensive I then examined this same class of words in the poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins and in Joyce's *Ulysses*. This heterogeneous data set is unacceptable for a formal study, but it served my immediate purpose, to approximate the degree that "rare" words could be correlated for very different authors.

Consider for a moment what might be expected. If an author uses a word only once in a lifetime of writing it would not seem likely that another writer would use it at all. One would also expect such words to be lexical oddities (especially in the case of Joyce, who frequently compounded his own words). A pilot analysis in fact suggests the opposite. A correlation of the full set of words used once by each of seven authors is both tedious and largely irrelevant, but a workable sample (all the once-occurring words indexed under "q" for each author) reveals an interesting trend. First, it clearly points to the fact that the majority of "rare" words of any author are absolutely unremarkable. Joyce's list (from *Ulysses*) includes 82 items, from "quadrangle" to "quoting", of which only a handful are (like this entry) "queerities".

The extent to which writers not only utilize the same words but use them with the same relative frequency, is clearly shown since, of these 82, 19 also appear once only in the works of at least one and often two or more of the other authors. The tables above summarize the high degree of correlation between the test authors, both in high frequency and low frequency domains.

Obviously, the varying sizes of the works from which these figures are derived make direct comparison or interpretation meaningless, but they point to the fact that not only do a relatively common set of highest-frequency words recur in much the same proportion in different authors, but that common lowest-frequency words do also (some once-words were shared by as many as four authors). Therefore, one seems justified in doubting the power of computational tests of vocabulary at least, since authors whom we recognize as widely divergent stylistically, appear to rely upon substantially the same data set. Moreover, since all of the authors appear to use high-frequency and low-frequency words in much the same way, the constraints of language earlier alluded to must dominate the entire word-frequency spectrum. It follows, if this is true, that other current computational approaches must also fail to detect the person behind the since a disproportionate of words on any printed determined by fundamen of language, obscuring t fying features of its user

An analogy seems app has long been possible and resynthesize musical tronically, and to recogn instrument produced a simply by observing wh tones are superimposed fundamental harmonic. It cant that acoustic theory nated the influence of s tones as the *quality* of a distinct from such q aspects as pitch and inte superimposed harmonics can comprise less than 1 p the total magnitude of wave, yet without them i impossible to ascribe t instrument, though pitch sity can still be measured accuracy. The relevance to tification of literature is clear—if a quantitative factor is wholly respo timbre and individuality then might not the same literature?

I believe it is fair to s current computational a perhaps a century be counterparts in acoustics not expect to detect th nuances of an author in sample until we have plotted the locus of language, which is quant pervading. In specific involves the tedious la lishing, on many lingu norms for each liter genre, and language. doubtless take years of cooperation. However, tional analysts can take the fact that if m synthesize sonatas, they day plot the comple literary genius.

August 27: Sir Paul Design.

Hardware and software in the computer age

BASIL de FERRANTI (Editor):

Living with the Computer

93pp. Oxford University Press. Paperback, 90p.

ERIC MOONMAN (Editor):

British Computers and Industrial Innovation

The Implications of the Parliamentary Select Committee.

126pp. Allen and Unwin. £2.50.

Living with the Computer is a short book, containing nine well-written essays by various authorities, including the editor, on the impact of automation on the home, on research, on education, on the law, on central and local government, on the health service, on business and industry, and finally on our understanding of the individual. So far as it goes, it is full of interesting information; and it would be captious to carp at it for not going farther than it is designed to go.

Its limitations are none the less frustrating. For example, one chapter points out that in a computerized society, though we shall be much better placed to get information that we know we want, we shall be less immersed in a stream of news and views such as is generated today by books and newspapers. But it does not speculate on the result of such a change or even notice that it might be important and perhaps highly dangerous. Yet the conspicuous feature of our time is that we feed largely on news, and still more on views, which are neither directed to us individually nor sought by us specifically, but are selected by us from the stream which flows over us; and that our major interests and passions are generated and nourished in this way.

The approach is uniformly technological. We are supposed to assume that the sole object of any activity is its "end"; that the object of cooking is to have a meal, not to exercise a skill. We are expected to endorse without question a century-old view that "calculation and reasoning like weaving and ploughing is work not for human souls but for clever combinations of iron and wood". Just what is appropriate work for "human souls" or even for clever combinations of flesh and blood is not stated. Evidently it includes making computers—and making the money to buy them. We shall be paying four-figure sums (if we can afford it) for our computer under the stairs.

The last chapter, by the editor, which promises to be the most interesting, seems at once the most disappointing and also the most illuminating. It is full of fascinating information about the physiology of the brain and about current theories of memory; but it is wholly concerned with human "hardware". The hardware of the brain and CNS has been unchanged, so far as we know, since Cro-Magnon times. Even the fullest understanding of it could tell us nothing about an individual, except, perhaps, his biological limitations—and even these, as Herbert Simon recently observed, we can largely infer without knowing their origin. It is the software that matters—the cultural seed-bed in which the individual is matured and the sequence of individual experiences—and "processing" of experience—which generate his unique "programme". The main effect of living with the computer may be not the automatic frying of our breakfast bacon but the automatic focusing of our critical attention on the "programmes" which guide our personal, social, political and industrial activities. And this may well change them out of all recognition.

The distinction between hardware and software is the most important conceptual gift of the computer. (Why boggle over the ghost in the machine when every computer has to have a programme before it can even compute?) It is also a highly important industrial distinction. To make computers requires high technology, high capitalization and large-scale production. To write programmes requires professional skill applied to specific situations and types of situation. Computers are mass-produced; programmes are not. As a field of international competition, software is in principle more favourable than hardware to the non-American.

For America dominates the computer market. Its home demand, far greater even in proportion to population than the home demand of European countries, sustains an industry (more exactly, the single firm IBM) which dominates the Western world. To maintain a computer industry independent of America is possible for other Western nations only if it is the goal of resolute and expensive public policy. And this goal, like technological goals in similar fields, is confused by conflicting principles.

One attempt to resolve it is the subject of *British Computers and Industrial Innovation*. The most important experiment made by the last Labour Government in the use of parliamentary select committees was the work done by subcommittee D of the Select Committee on Science and Technology in 1969-70 on the computer industry. The dissolution of parliament in June, 1970, prevented the committee from reporting, though it was able to authorize the publication of its Minutes of Evidence. This book, edited by a former member of that sub-committee and containing contributions from others who served on it or appeared before it, is an attempt to save something from the wreck. It is necessarily much less than the report which might have been; but it contains useful information about the development of both the hardware and the software sides of the industry and the role which government might play in their development.

When sound films first emerged, they focused an obsessive but appropriate concern with the p hardware. The technicia simply assumed, if the matter any thought at silent film would be bette talked. Only later did breed of men observe th been created a medium sustaining a new art decades now the develop sound film has lain not cal quality of photograph reproduction which is them all but in the art ducer, the director, the s and the actors, as they ha the possibilities and limita new medium and been enlarged and limited in Software has won out. lopment of the compute and software have dev the beginning in closer but hardware problems ate. The computer decades may not greatly character; but it will come much smaller cheaper and thus more a wider range of softw menters. The enlargeme limitations of living with appear more radical and sive than these books

Claude Lévi-Strauss served something a *festschrift*, and he has massive volumes of *Communications* edited Pouillon and Pierre Ma volumes, 1452pp. Mouton. 315 fl). The come under eight hea est of which is "Stru pology". Contributo Evans-Pritchard, Ra Michel Leiris, Rom André Leroi-Gourhan, Leach, Roland Barth Aron, and Georges is also a bibliograph Strauss's writings and of artistic homage Ernst

NEW POETS AWARD 1971

Veronica Forrest-Thomson

LANGUAGE GAMES

Veronica Forrest-Thomson is the second winner of the New Poets Award, which was judged by Peter Porter and Edwin Morgan.

75p or $2.25 U.S.A. (paperback). Subscriptions for the first three volumes in the New Poets Award series are available at £2 or $6.00. Entries for next year's Award of £100 with publication are invited from poets resident in U.K. who have not published more than one volume of poetry.

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xtra-diocesan

DENTON:

Royal Free Chapels 1100-

Manchester University £2.40.

ory of the medieval church d, in its jurisdictional and ial aspects, is one of a long n (or revolution) from a de of churches and chapels y landlords, groups of free- d gatherings of priests, overseen by a dozen bishops, regiment of parish churches ed among clearly drawn . Such, at least, was the posed for the long exercise: -over of free-enterprise pri- nership by the machinery of man Curia. The process in s far more complicated and iformly successful than this implies. The age of the pro- church is still with us in n of lay patronage, and the ary church itself only dis- d with the abolition of the rs" in 1837—in fact it still in the Queen's Free Chapel dsor and the College of St Westminster, both Royal , outside the jurisdiction ordinary, and since 1533 even from the nominal t of the Roman court.

ecclesiastical map of medieval d is thus chequered with num- enclaves, great and small, con- churches, monasteries, s and even districts, exempt in degrees from the control of cesan bishop. Many years ago on Thompson sympathized e hard case of the Bishop of ster, hemmed in by the "pecu- f his dean and chapter, by a d fragment of the diocese of ury, and by the large parish am, a peculiar of the Bishop ter.

Denton has now studied a neg- class, the royal free chapels, a aneous collection ranging e royal chapel par excellence, the group of clerks under the chancellor who followed the court with their books, vestments and other gear, through dignified establishments such as St Martin le Grand, to small items such as a bunch of churches in Staffordshire. Ultimately these had been royal proprietary churches, and Dr Denton concludes by giving his opinion that all must have been royal secular colleges at some time, situated on royal demesne. This can be accepted, granted that a college as a technical term is something of an anachronism in England before the Conquest.

It was only in the middle decades of the twelfth century that bishops began systematically to demand recognition of their rights as laid down by the newly introduced canon law. All kinds of complications ensued. Did the parishes owned and provided for by the free chapels share in their freedom? What was the status of a royal chapel when bestowed upon a bishop or other patron? Generally speaking, the chapel itself clung to its exempt status even when given to the diocesan as a private person, while the parishes of a free chapel normally acknowledged the diocesan in most, if not in all respects.

Canon law, however, made no allowance for the category of royal chapels, while the sovereign of canon law, the Pope, claimed the power to remove churches from all control except his own, and in the twelfth century "exemption" became an increasingly desirable papal privilege. Monasteries sought thus to ward off bishops, while the king at a later date obtained or assumed papal exemption for his royal chapels.

All this Dr Denton discusses with wide learning and patient scholarship. He notes also the minor claimants to freedom, royal oratories, castle chapels and oratories. He could with advantage have made clearer the nature of royal immunities before the Conquest, and the forms of papal exemption in the twelfth century.

Conquering compatriots

DAVID C. DOUGLAS:

The Norman Achievement 1050-1100

271pp. Eyre and Spottiswoode. £3.

David Douglas is probably the most distinguished Norman historian alive in England today. Seven years ago, in 1964, he summed up the fruit of his long study of the Norman Conquest in a masterly biography of *William the Conqueror*. In this present book he reviews the achievement of the Normans in Europe and beyond—in Italy, Sicily, and Syria, as well as England—in the period of the great Norman expansion, between 1050 and 1100.

The story that he has to tell is in itself tremendously exciting. The second half of the eleventh century was an important moment in European history; it witnessed the first stirrings of the movement in art and letters that we call the twelfth-century renaissance, the opening of the great controversy over investitures and the stormy pontificate of Gregory VII, and the launching of the first crusade. It was also the period which saw the establishment of the Norman ducal dynasty on the throne of England, of Normans as the rulers of southern Italy and Sicily, and finally of Bohemond's Norman principate at Antioch.

This Norman expansion is an essential part of the wider history of the period. But for its alliance with the Normans at certain crucial moments, the papacy might never have shaken itself free from dependence on the German emperors. From the beginning, the Normans took a leading part in the crusading movement; and Robert Guiscard, before the first crusade, was already dreaming of a Western conquest of Constantinople. As patrons of the churches in the lands they ruled, the Normans also played a significant, if often indirect, part in the renaissance of letters.

There can be no doubt that long acquaintance has taught Professor Douglas to enjoy his Normans. We do hear a little from him of the darker side of Norman history, of atrocities that were "utterly revolting", but positive achievement is his theme. The subjects that stir him to rhetoric (for he is an instinctive rhetorician) are the high capacity of the Norman leadership at all levels, the Norman genius for adaptation, the Norman ability to organize and uphold government. *The Norman Achievement* is dominated by the famous leaders: William I of England, Robert Guiscard the conqueror of Apulia and his brother Roger "the Great Count" of Sicily, and Bohemond of Antioch.

The failures, like Roussell of Bailleul who aspired to make himself emperor in Constantinople, leave no mark on Professor Douglas's writing, and he has little to say about the inability of the Normans to keep the peace with one another; of the ferocious rivalry which nearly undid their achievement in England and certainly helped to undo it elsewhere. One wishes, too, that he had found more space for the companions of William I and Robert Guiscard, certainly a varied crew. One of the best sections of the book is that which picks out the family connexions that knit together the Norman expansion: in the house of Grandmesnil, for instance, Hugh fought at Hastings, Robert became abbot of the monastery of St Euphemia in Calabria, while three of Hugh's sons were at the siege of Antioch. Professor Douglas is at his best when he is tracing relationships such as these; one would like to hear more of the men in question, even if it meant skimping on the famous conquerors.

At the beginning of the book the author states that it is his aim to study the Norman achievement between 1050 and 1100 as a unity, in quest of a more complete explanation than others have given in answer to the question: Why this small group of men from northern France was able in fifty years so rapidly to extend its domination? In this ambitious aim he does not quite succeed. He does show that there were certain talents and habits of mind that the Normans displayed wherever they went: but after all, they were all Normans and we would not expect much less. This does not really hold together a story whose strands are becoming looser all through its course, and it is not inappropriate that the book should end with a round tour of the tombs of the early leaders, to every one of whom — except Bohemond — the Normandy from which their race sprang was very familiar. If Professor Douglas had extended the period of his coverage even a little further, the stamp of uniformity would be less sharp. Perhaps this has something to do with the imbalance which is the principal weakness of the book: there is a little too much narrative for the purposes of the scholar, and a little too much scholarship for the general reader, unless he has a very strong digestion.

In *York* (72pp. Dalesman Books. Paperback, 50p) Michael Pocock briefly traces 1,900 years of the city's history. Beginning in Roman Eboracum, he leads on through the city's part in the civil wars of the fifteenth and seventeenth centuries, and its "disengagement from national affairs" in Hanoverian times, to a concluding description of York in the more recent past and at the present day

ne Lion in command

ARROW with W. W. SCOTT

s of William I, King of Scots 14

Regum Scottorum: Volume

Edinburgh University Press.

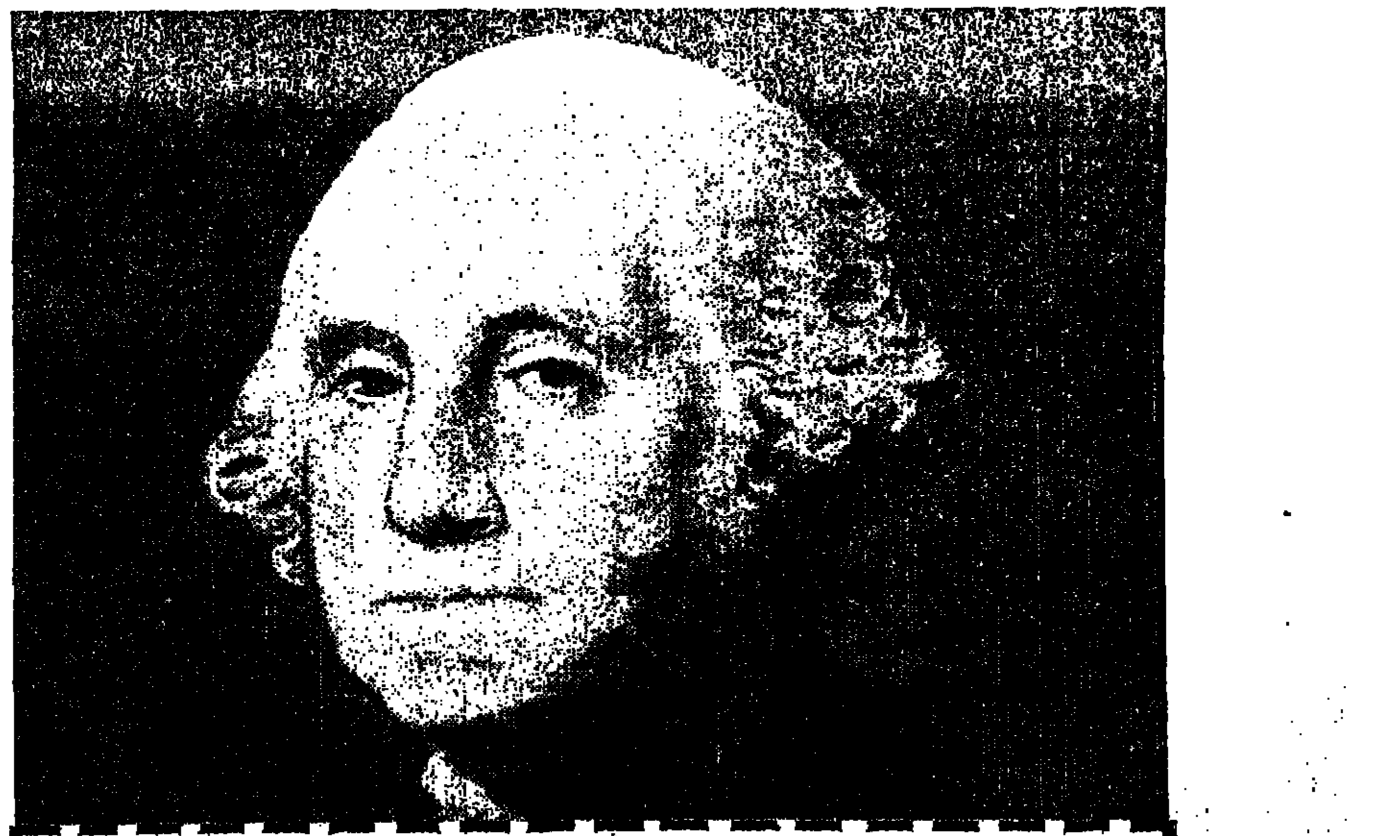
n ten years have elapsed first volume of the *Regesta Scottorum* appeared, and shown how important is rtaking to all students of Britain. England, for a arlier period, has her *Regum Anglo-Norman-* ich is now happily com- four volumes, and which recognized as an indispens- ment of scholarship. The uivalent bids fair to be- qual in excellence, and for t thank the energy and W. S. Barrow. In 1960 ated the venture with a oted to the acts of Mal- (1153-1165) together with er characters which had lication; and now he l this up with a massive ontaining the acts of the Lion" who reigned nd from 1165 to 1204. aration of this volume ly concerned Professor his collaborators for a it is common gratitude hat their labours have pended. There are no 527 surviving writs and William the Lion, and of ave been discovered in al format, while the ave been studied in the rtularies into which they ally copied. All these ere been printed in full medium of a transcrip- commands confidence, and with a lavish critical apparatus which will repay careful study. In addition there are here recorded some seventy "lost acts" whose existence is vouched for by early testimony.

The value of this work to students of twelfth-century charters need hardly be stressed, and Professor Barrow has added a long introduction dealing with the form and content of these deeds. The life and reign of William the Lion and the methods of his government are here fully displayed, and some assessment is made of the place he should occupy in the history of Britain. Note is taken of his disastrous campaign against England in 1174, of his subsequent imprisonment, and of his homage to the Angevin kings of England.

But after his release, the power of this King of Scotland steadily grew. He was perhaps more influenced than any of his predecessors by Norman principles and practices of administration, and in his time his realm attained a closer cohesion than it had ever possessed before. In the final summary the verdict on William the Lion cannot be unfavourable. He was recognized as "an upholder of justice":

> Paternalistic and autocratic, conservative in ecclesiastical affairs, William upheld for nearly half a century the proposition that there was such a thing as the kingdom of Scotland, and that he was in charge of it,

Much of Professor Barrow's introduction is severely technical, and his criticism of the texts he has so carefully edited will attract the detailed attention it deserves. It is therefore surprising that a University Press should have placed the supporting notes and references to this introduction in their present inconvenient positions instead of (as in Volume I) at the foot of the pages to which they refer.



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Servant of Peace

LANZA DEL VASTO:
Return to the Source
Translated by Jean Sidgwick.
319pp. Rider. Paperback, £1.50.

In many ways this book is sadly dated. It was first published in French in 1943 and deals with the author's travels in India and Ceylon in 1936-37. Gandhi was then at the height of his fame, the Second World War had not yet broken out, the British Empire was still taken for granted, and India was still under British rule.

When the original French edition was published, the story of a European who had wandered all over India without money or any unessential possessions in search of Gandhi and enlightenment was still interesting and inspiring because there was still hope that out of the fire and brimstone of the second world holocaust of the century something new and valuable might emerge. Gandhi had not yet been assassinated by that incongruous phenomenon, the fanatic Hindu, and it still seemed possible that his spirit, which had all but united India by purely religious and non-violent means, might spread throughout a world sobered by the wanton destruction of two world wars. Today no such facile optimism exists, and most people are content with the negative achievement of the postwar decades, the mere fact that the two super-powers have not blown each other to pieces and with them the entire world in which we live.

Lanza del Vasto, the Sicilian pilgrim who sought out Gandhi and was renamed by him "Shantidas" (the servant of peace), learnt and experienced much that was valuable to himself and others in the holy land of India. He succeeded in founding an Order (the Order of the Ark) open to all denominations and following Gandhian principles of non-violence and simple manual work. The Order now has its headquarters in southern France.

Shantidas was born a Catholic, and he remains one; but he has tried to incorporate into his own spirituality all that is most abiding in Hinduism. It is depressing but not surprising that one who has really succeeded in building a living bridge between two religions so apparently different, should have passed almost unnoticed in his own Church which, as the creation of its totally ineffective Secretariat for Non-Christians shows, professes to be interested in inter-faith cooperation. So long as this is confined to a flow of well-intentioned paper from the offices of the Secretariat, this seems to keep the headquarters in Rome perfectly happy. Shantidas's Christianity, relived on Gandhian principles of poverty and non-violence, though admittedly a small-scale affair, does not seem to have attracted the attention of Rome, nor, for that matter, of either the conservative or the radical wings of the Roman Church.

Since this is the religious climate of our times it seems a pity that this excellent and well-translated book will probably be read by very few. The author is not by any means an indiscriminate admirer of all things Hindu any more than was his master Gandhi. Through Yoga, however, he did achieve what the Hindus call "liberation" when "the tree sang glory to the delivered soul", and this after the most horrific experiences that adepts of Yoga will tell you you must expect before the calm of liberation dawns.

All this we have heard before, and we now know that whatever Yoga can do LSD can do better. Or can it? For whereas the high-priests of LSD see no differences between the "clear light of the Void" and shamanistic orgies, Shantidas is very sure that they are totally different experiences. He ought to know since he has learnt it all the hard way; and what he tells us is that it is not enough to experience the bliss of liberation unless we are deeply concerned with our fellow-men. He has little sympathy with a Hindu philosopher who, not untypically, declared:

> I have laid down all hate, all fear, all hope, all love. Things come and go, men pass and die; they undergo the fate they have woven with their own hands. What does it matter to me? It is not mine. I am not that, I am the everlasting, limitless, all-powerful Self.

A brief stay at Gandhi's ashram was enough to make him see that *this* sort of Hinduism has nothing to offer anyone who cares.

The book may be and should be read as a religious quest. But even if read as an eccentric traveller's experiences of India, it is excellent. Often with admiration, sometimes with humour, rarely with indignation he depicts what he has seen of this uniquely admirable and sometimes uniquely irritating people. Although the author is sometimes a little over-gratified with his chosen way of holy poverty, no reader can be unimpressed by his heroic endurance in his grinding search for truth.

Even honester to God

RAY BILLINGTON:
The Christian Outsider
160pp. Epworth Press. Paperback, 60p.

How far outside can you go and still be inside? This book, as the title indicates, is on the boundary of traditional Christian thinking. Ray Billington seems to discard almost everything hitherto constitutive of Christianity; yet he does not disown the Christian name.

Nobody will wish to impugn his integrity, or deny his right to stand where he chooses to stand. But it is not surprising that the publishers record their dissent from some of his opinions. They show courage, however, in giving the book their imprint, as a "vivid contribution to the debate about the 'Christian presence' in contemporary society". And it is also a vivid personal report of a spiritual journey in the wilderness. One can follow with sympathy and understanding. But the reader is forced to ask at the end just how much it has in fact contributed. Has it perhaps been leading into a cul de sac?

The book begins (says the blurb) where *Honest to God* left off. It is "Woolwich" in origin and in inspiration. Mr Billington, though a Methodist Minister, served on the staff of St Mary's parish church, and the germ of the book is a postdated inquest on the "Woolwich experiment" under Nicolas Stacey, which attracted so much unfortunate publicity. Why did it fail (if it was indeed a failure)? What lessons are to be derived from it for the place of the Church and the business of the Christian in secular, pluralist society? And how much is implied in religionless Christianity?

The imaginatively structured parish staff, partly lay and interdenominational, meant from the first that most members of the team were seldom, if ever, in very close contact with the worshipping congregation and its activities. The church was not their geographical centre nor was it for long their psychological centre. What, they had to ask, was its relevance, if any, to what they were seeking to do in the wider community?

Mr Billington soon came to the conclusion that as a self-enclosed, sacred enclave it was worse than irrelevant, it was a positive hindrance. "The Church was not doing the job for which it was created"—and it is to be noted that this was understood almost wholly in sociological terms—and it was "diverting members into socially non-valuable activities". Thus he was drawn to the notion of Non-Church which he aired in the pages of *New Christian*.

Mr Billington argues that the Church which the world needs will be an open Church, not contained within walls of partition, whether of buildings, concepts or commitments, without organization or rolls of membership, without any official or commissioned Ministry. Leadership will be "from below" and "would openly depend on personality instead of office or function". (And precisely to that extent, it may be remarked, it would quickly be found morally intolerable.) These spontaneous groups of men and women (some of whom might of course be Christians) would meet together simply as people, on the basis of their common humanity for the exploration and service of human need.

Non-church entails non-theology. The concept of God has been "a convenient shorthand" for a whole range of human ideas and experiences—"God", in other words, is an adjective, not a noun—but it is now "semantically superfluous". Any teaching that presupposes belief in God has now become meaningless and incommunicable—this book has an oddly old-fashioned ring about it—and if Christians want to communicate with their fellow men, then no such distinctive or divisive words as God, Christ, Church, eternal life can be admitted into the dialogue.

For theology we must write anthropology—which, as many critics recognized years ago, is the logical end-term of "secular" theologians—for what it is really about is human values. What Jesus himself said abou once satisfactorily d "amounts to an a human values". Bu can be no place fo tural. The human sit Billington, can be d human terms. (Harve serves, did not go fa the secular city glori spoken, and he took a against ecclesiasticis not let go the myth o Bonhoeffer is taken "Religion (in the tr of that word) is m irrelevant in human s barrier to human prog

How far, the reade this position distingui of secular humanism? does not call himself a is not willing to wear label. He has not "s he says there ought to "My prime wish is only as a member of race", and one pe cerned with human c

That total identifica as men is clearly a g "Christian presence". all men, ought to b *Nihil humani alienum* this they have their reasons, inseparable belief in God. Can it b sustained on any "s ular" basis? Is it pos in human values, ca believe in himself, ap in something more th is surely the crucial moment. Once we transcendent God an into anthropology a volved in a control terminisms of natu word (Bertrand Ru ing despair") and meaning becomes se

Jewish and Islamic

ERWIN I. J. ROSENTHAL:
Studia Semitica
Volume I: Jewish Themes. 366pp. £3.40.

Volume II: Islamic Themes. 222pp. £2.80.

Cambridge University Press.

Erwin Rosenthal's contributions to Jewish and Islamic studies are well known to specialists in those fields. The two volumes under review assemble some twenty-five articles, all previously published either in scholarly journals or *Festschriften* (that most hapless of literary genres to which scholars are apt to contribute hastily manufactured studies which rarely do honour to those they are meant to honour). They cover a period of close on thirty-five years, but it would be wrong to suppose that any of them is difficult of access.

For this reason it is not clear why the Cambridge Faculty of Oriental Studies and the Cambridge University Press should have judged it appropriate to reprint articles which no one who wishes to read them should have any difficulty in finding in the scholarly outlets to which their author originally consigned them. The blurb does not fail to apply the vogue word "distinguished" which now does duty for what, in semantically more rigorous days, would have been described as "competent". For competent these articles certainly are. They deal with the Hebrew Bible, Jewish philosophy, medieval and modern Islam. None can be described as "pioneering" or "seminal" (another current favourite), but most constitute the bread-and-butter stuff which professional scholars are expected to produce. The most valuable study included in this miscellaneous collection is, perhaps, the very perceptive article on Ismar Elbogen whose scholarship and considerable influence on Jewish studies in the first third of this century deserve to be better known.

But neither Elbogen (to whom Dr Rosenthal pays such generous tribute) nor the giants of Semitic studies, such as Nöldeke or Goldziher, Driver, Gibb, or Arberry, appear to have felt the urge to reprint and collect between two covers—or in this case four covers—what had already been truly published in most appropriately chosen places. At a time when far too much is consigned to the printers (and the university presses are not markedly better in resisting this menacing flood of publication) there is surely no need to issue the same thing twice. Nor can it be claimed that photographic reproduction has added to the beauty of these two volumes, for each article appears in its original fount and garb, and the total impression is scarcely pleasing.

More serious, however, is the misleading title. "Jewish and Islamic Studies" would have been wholly appropriate, but *Studia Semitica* suggests coverage of area (Akkadian, Syriac, Ugaritic, Ethiopic, &c) and subject (philology and linguistics in particular) which is wholly absent from these volumes.

His colleagues will hope that this accolade bestowed by the Cambridge University Press on Dr Rosenthal does not mark the end of his scholarly career but will usher in a fresh period of learned production.

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ncyclopaedia of Art. 5 2,139pp. Pall Mall. et

ous work, originally pub- aris in 1967 as a *Diction- l'art et des artistes* and brought up to date by an editor, aims to be "a com- and authoritative refer- e for both student and ader". It includes 4,000 e quarter of which are onological surveys, e.g., Art, or articles on styles, lassicism, or schools, e.g., The chronological cover- wide-ranging, from Palae- Pop Art, and apart from art there are longer American, Asiatic and Art. The remaining 3,000 biographical.

ench origin of the encyclo- ults in a notable bias to- art of that country. For example, there is nothing oni though a quite minor rary artist like Birolli half a column, and there is tion of Pesne, the German , though Julius Bissier's ram psychograms" enjoy able coverage. The same s apply to the quality of the ical entries. The French generally admirable but the greatly. So distinguished historian as Pierre du r goes so far as to describe as President of the Vene- demy when the unfortunate d the greatest difficulty in lected at all until he was ying. The hundreds of illus- are well selected and mostly oduced.

GHAM, SELBY. *A Thirteenth- y Portrait Gallery at Salis- athedral.* 32pp. Salisbury: , Friends of Salisbury dral. Paperback, 35p.

illustrated handbook the confines himself to a single of Salisbury cathedral: its corbel-heads which in the of cases appear to be realis- its. In the thirteenth century e cathedral was built there owing tendency towards tic sculpture, the portrayal from life. Some of the e carved from the local stone, the others from Pur- ble; here are critical com- , and attempts to identify, a examples in both cate- wenty-three of them are , but still the booklet will value to visitors who can the sculptures *in situ*; plan locating all sixty of

y and Memoirs

GE, MALCOLM. *Something for God.* Mother Teresa alta. 156pp. Collins.

outcome of a television which in the event proved itable encounter not only thousands of viewers but especially for the inter- self. Malcolm Mugger- undoubted master of this isticated medium, pre- e of his quick intelli- sensitiveness to people. onishing occasion he elf in the presence of a such selflessness and that all the techniques gs of television faded cance. This was more view. It was a meeting *Something Beautiful* ords his interview with a and tells of his sub- to make a BBC film passionate work among and dying of Calcutta. The book is illustrated with shots from the film, and contains also the accompanying dialogue, as well as much else of the spiritual wisdom and work of this great woman.

SHEARS, SARAH. *Tapioca for Tea.* Memoirs of a Kentish Childhood. 187pp. Elek. £1.50.

Tapioca for Tea tells of growing up in a Kent village during and just after the First World War. Sarah Shears was one of a family of four, where the father was only a photograph or, later, a memory, and the whole task of rearing the children fell on the mother. This task she tackled with enormous determination, carrying out a planned campaign of mending and making-do in which never for a moment were the children allowed to lose a proper sense of self-respect. There is an almost heroic ring about parts of this quiet story, but there are plenty of village pleasures too—a visit to the sweet shop, the Chapel Good Friday Tea, or the annual adventures of the hop-picking. Miss Shears's narrative, with its detailed records of thoughts and conversations, reads, at times, more like autobiographical fiction than true autobiography, but it has a good deal of charm and brings back a world that will soon seem as distant as the Middle Ages.

Furniture

Modern Chairs 1918-1970. 32pp. plus 120 plates. Lund Humphries. £3.

This small handsomely produced volume provides a permanent hard-cover record of the exhibition held at the Whitechapel Gallery in the summer of 1970. Its nucleus consisted of thirty modern chairs assembled for the Circulation Department of the V and A by Carol Hogben who is primarily responsible for the well-informed catalogue. These thirty were expanded to one hundred and twenty chairs by loans from manufacturers and retailers, as well as public and private collections, so as to be almost completely representative. In addition to such way-out but functional objects as the Sacco (which is filled with plastic granules and takes the form of the body in any position) and the Blow chair, transparent and air-filled, it included such odd sports as Dali's "Mae West's Lips" wall seat and his "Hands" chair, whose vaguely surrealist form can be easily imagined. Little or nothing of importance in the past half century has been omitted from this excellent survey which is a book everyone interested in modern furniture design should possess.

History

COHEN, STEPHEN P. *The Indian Army.* Its Contribution to the Development of a Nation. 216pp. University of California Press (IBEG). £2.85.

The author has already made his name as an authority on the structure and functions of the Indian Army both during and after the period of the British raj by a series of scholarly contributions to learned journals. This book represents the fruits of many years of study. Nothing quite like it has been written before; for the author's aim, as manifested in the sub-title, is to determine the importance of the army as a sociological factor in the development of the sub-continent. Inevitably, much historical analysis is involved, particularly in tracing the relations between the civil and military authorities; the division of opinion over Indianization—Lord Reading's part in the implementation of the Sivaswamy Aiyer resolutions is clearly brought out; over martial as opposed to non-martial races as sources of recruitment, and the like. Very illuminating are his conclusions about the real significance of the Indian National Army as a factor in the changes which followed the Second World War, as is his analysis of the position of the armed forces in India and Pakistan respectively after both countries became independent. He ranks the development of an indigenous "brain" for the army as a major British accomplishment. This "brain" produced a military leadership after independence which deserves to rank with that of the civil service, enabling it to survive the conception of a non-professional, citizen army which seemed at one time to attract certain political leaders so strongly. In the event, organizational integrity was maintained by the defence forces both of India and Pakistan. The analysis of the growing distinction between their respective positions is masterly. This book will not be readily superseded as a sociological study with both military and political overtones, based as it is upon a mass of material, oral and written, painstakingly collected and admirably organized.

HENRIQUES, URSULA R. Q. *The Early Factory Acts and Their Enforcement.* 21pp. The Historical Association. Paperback, 20p.

Under the title "Appreciations in History" The Historical Association begins a new series of student pamphlets with this short survey of the exploitation of children and young people during the Industrial Revolution, and the campaign for preventive legislation. Dr Henriques, an authority on British social history, reminds readers that the history of the early Factory Acts is still relevant, since they "provided a precedent for state action in a 'free' economy to protect the weak, which made subsequent interventions that much easier". The booklet includes a select bibliography and a list of Aids for Teachers.

HODGSON, K. C. *Out of the Mahogany Desk.* 224pp. Research Publishing. £3.

This is one of those family histories which, while pleasantly written and well produced, cannot be expected to have a large circulation. But it may appeal to some readers from beyond the circle of the author's own family and related ones, since many of the letters on which the book is based have a bearing on public events. Some relate to China during the Opium Wars, the California of the gold rush, and the pioneering era in Australia. The letters and documents stored in the mahogany desk begin in 1736 and run on into late Victorian times. The writer has converted this chance material into an attractive book.

JOHNSON, DOUGLAS (Editor). *The Making of the Modern World.* Volume I: Europe Discovers the World. 446pp. Benn. £2.90.

Understandably, the Middle East and Asia receive the greatest attention, Africa and the Americas getting only one chapter each. The editor states in his introduction that this volume sets out to provide an examination of some of the major civilizations as they existed *c* 1492-1522. Most of the contributors stick to this guideline, but Richard Storry's chapter on "The Japanese scene in the 16th century" deals mainly with the period *c* 1550-1639. The sketch-maps are useful and many of the numerous illustrations are well chosen; but too many others are reproductions of worthless eighteenth-century engravings.

Philosophy

GRAYEFF, FELIX. *Kant's Theoretical Philosophy.* A Commentary to the Central Part of the "Critique of Pure Reason". Translated by David Walford. 232pp. Manchester University Press. Paperback, £1.20.

The author of this commentary has set himself two tasks. One is to show that the *Critique of Pure Reason* is a successfully completed, fully coherent system of thought, which contains not only perfectly clear philosophical questions, but also perfectly adequate answers to them. The other is to exemplify a theory of interpretation based on the idea that the logical unity of an intellectual system consists in "the harmony of an ultimately inferred concept with certain basic elementary concepts through the mediation of intermediate concepts". For the author the two aims are inseparable. Yet even a reader who finds the theory of interpretation unclear or unacceptable should find the interpretation useful. It may serve as an antidote to commentaries based on the assumption that the critical philosophy is a patchwork of incompatible beliefs, as well as to commentaries which imply that the post-Kantian development of science has rendered it worthless. The author's theory of interpretation prevents him from considering the critical philosophy in the light of later developments—an attitude not obviously consonant with Kant's "implicit view-point" which Professor Grayeff has tried to make explicit. Mr Walford's translation is clear and agreeable.

Poetry

WATSON, BURTON. *Chinese Lyricism.* Shih Poetry from the Second to the Twelfth Century. 232pp. Columbia University Press. £4.05.

Both in bulk and importance Shih poetry comprises the most important category in Chinese verse writing. The term *shih* is a complex one for in some contexts its meaning is synonymous with "poetry" itself. Here, it does not describe any one genre or verse-form, indeed a similar classification in English literature might well include Shakespeare's sonnets and *The Prelude*. The name originates from the *Shih Ching*, the "Poetry Classic" (or *Books of Songs* as Waley translated it) of the eleventh to the sixth centuries BC. Professor Burton Watson has already described this earliest Shih poetry in his valuable book *Early Chinese Literature*. In the present book he traces the development of the *shih* to its highest point of technical perfection in the *lü-shih* or Regulated Verse of the T'ang dynasty and to its greatest diversity of subject-matter in the *ku-shih* and *lü-shih* poetry of the Sung dynasty. There is a particularly interesting digression on the poetical innovations of the T'ang dynasty.

The book is obviously the outcome of many years' reading partly, as the author says, with students at Columbia and Stanford. Quite apart from its professed purposes, it also has the air of a report from the field, an account of work in progress. Professor Burton Watson does not pontificate, he draws the reader in to share the processes by which he reaches his conclusions or, occasionally, the frustrations of being unable to do so. Thus the book is peculiarly comforting as well as useful to the struggling student of Chinese poetry and provides some interesting insights for the general reader. Only the title seems mildly inappropriate—there is no justification in the body of the book for regarding Shih poetry and lyricism as synonymous.

Railways

BENNETT, ALFRED ROSLING. *The Chronicles of Boulton's Siding.* A New Impression introduced by John Marshall and with an index added. 276pp. Newton Abbot: David and Charles Reprints. £3.

First published in 1927 this describes the life and times of Isaac Watt Boulton (1823-1899), a locomotive engineer of rare resource, character and inventive genius. At his works (known as Boulton's Siding) he built locomotives; bought up other people's old ones; hired them out; adapted them; sold them and sometimes, if he liked them, bought them back again. He could do everything with boilers, cylinders and wheels that could be done—and sometimes rather more than he should have. On one occasion Edward Prince of Wales called for a fast steam launch to explore the source of the Cam. Faced with this demand Mr Boulton stripped a small colliery puffer he happened to have in his yard of saddle tank and wheels, and dropped the rest in a suitable hull. He was fortunate in his biographer Alfred Rosling Bennett (1850-1928) who skilfully assembled a real harvest of nineteenth-century engineering reminiscence and table-talk and trimmed it with his own happy sense of humour.

ROLT, L. T. C. *The Making of a Railway.* 154pp. Hugh Evelyn. £3.75.

The London extension of the Great Central Railway, running roughly from Nottingham to Marylebone, was built between 1894 and 1899. What was to be the last of the "spectaculars" of the heroic age of railway building entranced a young Leicester photographer, S. W. A. Newton, who took something like 1,000 pictures (actually photographic plates) while work was in progress. He was clearly a man of intelligence and also an artist and while he carefully recorded all the craft work, tunnelling, bridging and cutting, &c, he did not forget to take the likenesses of the workmen, their hutments, their mealtimes and siestas, and the mission halls erected to serve their spiritual needs. Mr Rolt, both engineer and writer, is the ideal interpreter of this extraordinary gallery and of what it represented. One lingers longest over the late nineteenth-century faces topped by hats of every size and shape. Newton's is a memorial of inestimable value; has anyone done so well for the building of the M1?

Social Studies

SUTHERLAND, JOHN D. (Editor) *Towards Community Mental Health.* 130pp. Tavistock. £2.40.

This is a collection of papers first presented in a programme arranged by the Psychotherapy and Social Psychiatry Section of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association. The authors are not primarily interested in the organization of mental health services but in much wider questions about the relationship between individuals and an increasingly technological society. Inevitably the papers are uneven in quality. The paper by the late Dr D. W. Winnicott contains a good deal of sense and Geoffrey Gorer, as always, is thoughtful and provocative, this time reminding us that "mental illness" is defined differently in different cultures and that the anthropological evidence shows that "you cannot have your cake and eat it, have an un-neurotic, un-anxious population and hope for high art, religious or erotic intensity, courageous autonomy".

WEIHS, THOMAS J. *Children in Need of Special Care.* 184pp. Souvenir Press. £2.

The Superintendent of the Camphill—Rudolf Steiner—Schools illustrates vividly that different approaches are needed towards different kinds of physical and mental handicaps in children. His practical observations on the value of early differential diagnosis are combined with a touching belief in the essential dignity of every human being, however outwardly malformed.

Topography

PEEL, J. H. B. *Along the Roman Roads of Britain.* 211pp. Cassell. £2.75.

Not all, or even all the more important Roman roads are traversed. Mr Peel chooses five for his travels, as diverse as may be. Watling Street takes him from Dover to Wroxeter, and through four chapters; Sarn Helen East conducts him into Welsh mountains; Dere Street from York to the Wall and over the Border; Peddars Way into East Anglia; and there is a final journey along the Foss Way into the West Country. With his strong sense of history, easy flow of narrative, and wide knowledge of what will repay a digression en route, he is a rewarding companion on each of these excursions.

Librarians

ANTRIM COUNTY LIBRARY

DIVISIONAL LIBRARIAN NEWTOWNABBEY

A.P.5 (£2,025-£2,268 under review). Applicants must be Chartered Librarians with considerable experience at senior level. The Division serves a population of some 60,000 with four branch libraries and one mobile.

Further particulars from County Librarian, Demesne Avenue, Ballymena. Closing date for applications, 31st August 1971.

Canvassing will disqualify.

BACIE

ASSISTANT INFORMATION OFFICER required with special responsibility for maintenance of the library, cataloguing, classification and filing, and receipt of periodicals.

General assistance in the work of the Information Department. Applicants should be qualified librarians, and have suitable experience, preferably in industrial training. They should be used to writing clear concise English and be able to type. Salary according to age and experience.

Applications to the Information Officer, British Association for Commercial and Industrial Education, 16 Park Crescent, London, W1N 4AP.

BOROUGH OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

BOROUGH LIBRARIAN

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS' RANGE I (£3,048 to £3,471)

APPLICATIONS are invited from Chartered Librarians with suitable qualifications and experience for the above POST which will become vacant on the retirement of the present holder on 1st November next.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the control of a Central Library (shortly to be rebuilt as part of a central area redevelopment) and seven branch libraries.

Assistance will be given with housing (purchase or limited period rental) and 50 per cent removal expenses payable. Car allowance at present £159.

Applications, naming two referees, should be sent to the undersigned not later than 27th August, 1971.

J. P. Holden, Town Clerk, Council House, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

BOROUGH OF WORTHING

SENIOR ASSISTANT A.P.3

CENTRAL LENDING LIBRARY

Commencing salary to be determined according to qualifications and experience.

The appointment will be subject to the National Scheme of Conditions of Service of Local Government Officers and to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Acts.

Worthing is now the second largest town in Sussex, with a population of over 85,000 and it is attracting more than a thousand additional resident every year.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience and giving the names of two persons to whom reference may be made, must be received by the Chief Librarian, Central Public Library, Chapel Road, Worthing, within 14 days of the appearance of this advertisement.

THOMAS TOOKE, Town Clerk

CAERNARVONSHIRE COUNTY LIBRARY

APPLICATIONS are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the POST of SENIOR ASSISTANT at the County Library Headquarters, Caernarvon. Salary: Librarian's Special Grade £1,417 to £1,776 per annum, commencing salary according to qualifications and experience. Knowledge of Welsh essential.

Further particulars and forms of application obtainable from the Director of Education, County Education Offices, Castle Street, Caernarvon. Closing date 6th September, 1971.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND ISLE OF ELY

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SENIOR ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN (ACQUISITIONS)

Applicants should be suitably qualified librarians to be responsible for book ordering and stock control procedures in the College Library.

Salary within A.P.2 Grade of N.J.C. Scales (£1,215 to £1,515, plus recent award).

Further details and application forms from the Vice Principal, Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology, Collier Road, Cambridge CB1 2AJ.

G. D. Edwards, Chief Education Officer.

CITY OF LONDON LIBRARIES

SENIOR LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the above post in a busy City Lending Library. Salary within the range £1,457 to £[illegible].

Application forms and further details from Principal Assistant Librarian, Guildhall Library, E.C.2. Closing date [illegible] August. Interviews 20th August.

CITY OF SALFORD PUBLIC LIBRARIES

DISTRICT LIBRARIAN

Grade A.P.4 (£1,776-£2,025 per annum)

APPLICATIONS are invited for the above POST from Chartered Librarians with suitable library experience.

A new District Library in the North of the City is scheduled to open in September, 1972, and it is hoped to appoint its Librarian by November, 1971, if possible.

Further details and application forms are obtainable from the City Librarian, Central Library, Peel Park, Salford, M5 4WU, to whom applications should be returned by September 3rd, 1971.

CITY OF SWANSEA

SWANSEA COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

APPLICATIONS are invited from Chartered Librarians for APPOINTMENT as LIBRARIAN (this post, men or women). A knowledge of Welsh would be an advantage. Candidates will need, on occasion, to undertake some evening and Saturday duties within their normal working week.

Salary scale (at present) £1,013 to £1,[illegible] (minimum for qualified staff £1,215).

Application forms (and particulars) from the undersigned; for return by 30th August, 1971.

L. J. DREW, Director of Education

Education Department, Guildhall Swansea.

August, 1971.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOLTON

APPLICATIONS are invited from Chartered Librarians for the position of ASSISTANT LENDING LIBRARIAN at the Central Lending Library, salary within A.P. 3-4 (£1,515 to £2,025). The library issues nearly one million books each year and has a staff of 25. It includes a Gramophone Record Library.

Further information on request. Application forms obtainable from the Establishment and Personnel Officer, Victoria House, Civic Centre, Bolton, to be returned by August 26th.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GRIMSBY

GRAMOPHONE AND MUSIC LIBRARIAN

APPLICATIONS are invited for this post Graded A.P.3. Entry point to be determined according to qualifications and experience.

Opened in 1950, the present library has 10,000 LPs and an annual issue of 80,000. The post carries responsibility for administering the music stock and a collection of framed reproduction prints, and offers considerable scope. Qualifications and experience are preferred but emphasis is also placed on initiative and enthusiasm.

Applications, with the names of two referees, should be sent to the Borough Librarian, Central Library, Grimsby, Lincs., not later than 23rd August, 1971.

F. W. Ward, Town Clerk and Chief Executive, Grimsby.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF HALIFAX

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

APPLICATIONS are invited from Chartered Librarians for the POST of CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN, salary on special scale for Librarians, commencing point according to qualifications and experience.

Applications, with appropriate details and the names of two referees, should reach the Chief Librarian, Lister Lane, Halifax, by 20th August.

CULHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

SENIOR LIBRARY ASSISTANT

APPLICATIONS from librarians are invited for the above POST, which involves work in an expanding college library. Work is interesting and varied.

Experience in public and/or academic libraries would be an advantage. Salary on N.J.C. Librarians' Scale, according to qualifications and experience.

Applications, giving the names of two referees, should be sent to the Librarian, Culham College, Abingdon, Berks, as soon as possible.

ENDSLEIGH COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

HULL

(640 students)

Required a qualified ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN. Salary: N.J.C. (APT1) Scale.

Applications with relevant details and the names of two referees should reach the Principal by September 3rd.

HON. SOC. OF LINCOLN'S INN

APPLICATIONS invited for the POST of LIBRARY ASSISTANT (Grade, Trainee Librarian). Female.

Minimum qualifications: five passes at G.C.E. "O" level, and ability to type.

Conditions: 9.30-5 p.m. (Term time 7 p.m. by rota), 37-hour week. Monday to Friday. Three weeks' holiday. Lunch provided. Non-contributory pension. General Library Duties.

Apply to The Under Treasurer, The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2A 3TL.

HARRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

PRESTON

JOINT POST OF ASSISTANT LENDING LIBRARIAN & PRISON LIBRARIAN

APPLICATIONS are invited from male CHARTERED LIBRARIANS for the above post. Salary £1,500 to £1,776 (Salary award pending). Assistance towards removal expenses and housing accommodation is available.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Borough Librarian, Harris Public Library, Market Square, Preston, to whom applications should be forwarded not later than 21st August.

JOINT COUNTY COUNCIL OF MORAY AND NAIRN

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

COUNTY LIBRARY

DEPUTY COUNTY LIBRARIAN

APPLICATIONS are invited from experienced CHARTERED LIBRARIANS to assist in the administration of a developing library service. Ability to organise and control staff and practical experience of D.D.C. are essential.

Moray and Nairn offers a pleasant, clean environment, a favoured climate and opportunities to participate in many cultural and sporting activities.

Salary: £1,413 to £1,776 with placing according to experience. Removal expenses.

Applications should be submitted to the undersigned. Closing date: 21st August, 1971.

F. J. Guthrie, County Librarian.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

APPLICATIONS are invited from graduate chartered librarians for a POST of ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN. Some cataloguing experience and a reading knowledge of French and German would be an advantage. Salary within the scale £1,491 to £2,454 plus £100 London Allowance. FSSU.

Applications, with names of two referees, should reach the Librarian, 25 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DR, by 3rd September.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

SCHOOL LIBRARIAN

HARTLAND COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Worksop

CHARTERED LIBRARIAN required for this POST which becomes vacant in October, 1971.

The appointment calls for all-round professional ability and a willingness to take a full part in the life of a developing school community. Salary within the Librarians' Scale (£1,413 to £1,776) according to experience.

Further details may be obtained from the County Librarian, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP. Closing date for applications 27 August.

THE GAS COUNCIL

LONDON RESEARCH STATION

have the following vacancies at Michael Road, Fulham, S.W.6

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

with typing experience

Successful candidate required to work in a Technical Library.

The work involves giving miscellaneous assistance in running the Library together with typing catalogue cards on a tape typewriter.

G.C.E. "O" level or C.S.E. in English essential.

Age 21 or over.

Salary within the range of £1,095 to £1,314.

Ref TLS 6403

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

(Male or Female)

(Age 21 or over)

Duties will include controlling the journal circulation system, maintaining a Library Loan Service, keeping stock records and general filing duties.

Previous library experience, though an advantage, is not essential, as training will be given.

Salary within the range of £1,095 to £1,314.

Applications giving full details should be addressed to:—The Appointments Officer, 30 Kensington Church Street, London, W8 4HB.

Please quote appropriate reference in your reply.

The Polytechnic

Queensgate, Huddersfield

SENIOR ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS

Applications are invited for 2 posts of Senior Assistant Librarian: one to act as Serials Librarian in the main Polytechnic Library, and one to assist the Tutor Librarian in the general running of the Education Library. Salary within the Librarians' Scale £1,038 (under review) to £1,776 (under review) according to qualifications and experience. Candidates should have completed the L.A. Registration Examination or equivalent. For further particulars and application forms, which must be returned within 14 days of this advertisement, please write to the Establishment Officer, The Polytechnic, Queensgate, Huddersfield, HD1 3DH.

TRAINEE LIBRARIANS

The Polytechnic Library has vacancies for staff intending to qualify as Chartered Librarians. Enquiries and applications are invited. Minimum educational requirements: 5 GCE passes, including one in English Language and 2 at "A" level. Salary within the Trainee Scale £489 (under review) to £1,515 (under review) according to age and qualifications.

For further particulars and application forms, which must be returned within 14 days of this advertisement, please write to the Establishment Officer, The Polytechnic, Queensgate, Huddersfield, HD1 3DH.

Education Committee of the County of Stirling

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF FALKIRK TECHNICAL COLLEGE

TUTOR LIBRARIAN

Applications are invited for the above post. Applicants should preferably hold a University Degree or equivalent qualification in Arts, Science or Engineering, together with a recognized Chartered Librarian's qualification. Applicants with a University Degree in Librarianship will be considered.

Salary will be on a scale equivalent to Scale 6 of the Scottish Teachers' Salaries Memorandum, 1971, with a maximum of £2,388 per annum. Placing will be given according to qualifications and experience. This post offers opportunity and challenge!

Falkirk Technical College is a major College in modern buildings with Departments of: Building Trades, Chemistry, Commerce and Business Studies, Electrical Engineering, Foundry Trades, General Studies, Mathematics, Mechanical and Production Engineering, and Mining. There are currently over 5,000 students. An extensive building programme is due to start at an early date, on completion of which the present Library will move to a new part of the College. The Tutor Librarian appointed will have the opportunity of participating in the detailed planning and commissioning of the new Library. The Tutor Librarian is directly responsible to the Principal for the effective organization of the College Library Service and for implementing the policy of providing Library Tutorials for students in a wide variety of courses.

Application forms may be obtained from Dr. W. W. Enston, Principal, Falkirk Technical College, Grangemouth Road, Falkirk. Completed forms are to be returned to the Principal at the above address not later than Friday, 3 September, 1971.

JAMES S. MELDRUM,
Director of Education.

Education Offices, Spittal Street, Stirling.

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

(£1,059–£1,464 p.a.)

required for the Central Electricity Generating Board's Headquarters' Library which serves our establishments throughout England and Wales.

Initially, the successful candidate will be responsible for Book Loans.

Applicants should have had a good, general education; library experience would be an advantage.

Applications stating full relevant details and present salary to B. Grimsley, Personnel Officer (Headquarters), Sudbury House, 15 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AU, by 20 August, 1971. Quote Ref. TLS/218.

West Suffolk County Council

COUNTY LIBRARY

LIBRARIAN

required for a mobile library based at Bury St. Edmunds. Salary for a qualified librarian within the Special Scale (£1,038-£1,515). Further details and application forms from the County Librarian, Shire Hall, Bury St. Edmunds. Please quote Reference TLS. 6.

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

(Junior)

Required in Library of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London S.W.1. Varied general duties including accessioning and processing, photocopying, etc. Candidates must be able to type. Good opportunity for a junior to gain experience in special library techniques. Hours: 9.15 to 5.30, Monday to Friday. LVs. 3 weeks normal annual holiday. Telephone for appointment 01-930 7476, Ext. 118 or 115.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND ISLE OF ELY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

County Library

Children's Librarian

AP4 £1,776 to £2,025

Applications are invited from chartered librarians with suitable qualifications and experience for the post of librarian-in-charge of the service to children and schools.

Help with removal expenses given in approved cases. House purchase facilities may also be available.

Further particulars from the County Librarian, Shire Hall, Cambridge, CB3 0AP, to whom applications giving age, particulars of education, qualifications, experience, present post, etc., and the names and addresses of two referees should be sent to reach him by 23rd August, 1971.

G. D. Edwards, Chief Education Officer.

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

SENIOR ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

The above post is the third in seniority in a young and expanding system. We are looking for someone, enthusiastic and adaptable, with special interest in cataloguing and classification and/or work with children. Further details may be obtained from the undersigned. Salary within scale AP 1. £1,038-£1,272. The appointment is superannuable, terminable by one month's notice on either side. The successful applicant will be required to pass a medical examination and belong to an appropriate Trade Union.

Applications stating age, qualifications and experience, together with the names and addresses of two persons to whom reference may be made, must reach the undersigned not later than 1st September, 1971.

G. W. HOSGOOD, Clerk of the Council, Town Hall, Mountain Ash, Glam.

AUSTRALIAN LIBRARIANS and others interested in the formation of U.K. branch of L.A.A. will meet in library, Australia House, 6.30 p.m. 16th August. For information ring Mr. [illegible], 836 2435, Ext. 338.

The British National Service in the New Hebrides

has a vacancy for a

FRENCH/ENGL TRANSLATOR

Applications are invited from men, and … aged 24-45, with a fluent knowledge of … spoken French. Experience in translation … documents, and of simultaneous interpreta… rate of speech would be an advantage.

Salary, according to experience, is in the ra… to £2,431 p.a., including Inducement Allow… addition, a Territorial Allowance is payable … of 15 per cent of total salary earned duri… service. A Gratuity of 25 per cent of salary … ducement Allowance) is payable on comp… contract.

Applications, giving full details of education … ence, should be addressed to:—

CROWN AGENTS, 'M' Division, 4 Millbank, S.W.1, quoting reference number M3E/710…

ROYAL INSTITUTE O
BRITISH ARCHITECTS

RIBA Services needs two Information Ass… a small, enthusiastic team for an expanding … of work designed to help architects in their …

For one post, a library qualification or … CI/SfB. and experience in the construct… desirable. For the other, experience of … quality technical information on building … handling technical inquiries would be useful … the scale £1,050 to £1,680.

Write or 'phone for further informatio… Officer, RIBA, 66 Portland Place, W1N 4AD …

Royal Air Force College
Cranwell, Lincs.

Libraria

Post in the Ministry of Defence for a qual… rarian with at least 5 years' professional … ence. Experience in a scientific or technic… rary will be an advantage.

The duties involve the maintenance of … 40,000 volumes (mainly technical works) a… as a large number of technical reports a… publications, and the provision of a full ref… service to the directing staff and College st… Salary (under review): £1,982-£2,392 … contributory pension. Promotion prospects … For full details and an application form (to … turned by 7 September, 1971) write to the … Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basing… Hants, or telephone BASINGSTOKE 2922… 500, or LONDON 01-839 1696 (24-hour … fone" service), quoting G/628(B).

STOKE MANDEVILLE HOSPITAL
AYLESBURY BUCKS

MEDICAL LIBRARIAN

Applications are invited for the post of Librarian to the Nuffield Medical Centre. This is a lively and interesting post which is closely linked with the rapidly expanding Postgraduate Centre for the Aylesbury area. A new district general hospital will commence building later this year.

Applicants should be qualified librarians. Experience of medical library work desirable but not essential. Salary within scale £1,356 to £1,767 p.a.

Further details obtainable from the Administrative Officer to whom applications with two names for reference should be sent by 23rd August, 1971.

THE UNIV

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Assistant Librarian 2

Periodicals

£1,615 to £2,075 (under review)

to be responsible for building up a stock of periodicals suited to the needs of the Polytechnic.

Applicants should be Graduates with a professional qualification and appropriate experience.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Establishment Officer, Ulster College, The Northern Ireland Polytechnic, Jordanstown, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim.

Closing date for receipt of applications: August 30th.

Ulster College – Northern Ireland Polytechnic

Director: Derek Birley, MA.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

County Library

County Technical Library

senior assistant

AP 4 (£1,776-£2,025) plus recent award

Applications are invited from Chartered Librarians for the above post.

Housing accommodation for rental will be made available by the Development Corporation to successful applicants, if required.

Further particulars are obtainable from the County Librarian, 27 Guildhall Road, Northampton, NN1 1EF, by whom applications must be received by 25th August, 1971.

O. MEURIG JONES,
Clerk of the County Council.

Head of Library Information Service

he Library Information Service of the Cement and Concrete Association is to be transferred from its present location in London to Wexham Springs, near Slough, and is being reorganized. These changes have resulted in the need to appoint a new Head of the Service whose first tasks will be to plan the move to new quarters and to overhaul the present systems. The total staff of the service will be about sixteen Information Scientists, Librarians and Clerical Assistants.

The post will call for a professionally qualified Librarian or Information Scientist with considerable administrative ability and experience in the provision of active rather than passive information services. A technical background, preferably in a relevant subject field, would be a valuable asset.

This is regarded by the Association as an important post and the salary will be negotiated on the basis of experience and qualifications.

Written applications should be addressed to the

ector of Administrative Services,
MENT AND CONCRETE ASSOCIATION,
exham Springs, Slough, Bucks.

Assistant librarian/ Information officer

Kodak Chemical Division has a vacancy for an Assistant Librarian/Information Officer in its new Research and Development Department. Duties will include cataloguing, abstracting and answering technical queries in the research and applied chemistry fields along with general library duties. Applicants should hold at least part 1 of the Library Assistant examinations and have some experience of technical library work. A scientific background, knowledge of foreign languages and familiarity with UDC systems are desirable but not essential. The company offers an attractive starting salary for this position along with above average terms and conditions of employment.

Write giving full details of age, qualifications, experience and present salary to:

Personnel Manager,
Kodak Limited,
Kirkby Industrial Estate,
Kirkby, Liverpool.

Kodak

GIPPSLAND INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED EDUCATION

P.O. Box 81, Newborough, Victoria, Australia. 3828

The Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education is an autonomous tertiary institution established in Gippsland, Victoria, to serve the needs of eastern Victoria. In 1972 the Institute will move from its present temporary accommodation into the first of its permanent buildings on a large new site in rural surroundings at Churchill, 100 miles east of Melbourne and 50 miles from the Gippsland coast and lakes. A first-class highway and direct electrified rail service provide easy access to Melbourne. The campus adjoins the complex of cities and towns and industrial enterprises of the Latrobe Valley with a population of 75,000.

The Institute at present offers three-year post-matriculation diploma courses in Engineering, Applied Science, Business Studies, General Studies, and Art and Design. Degree courses in some of these areas will be introduced as soon as possible.

Applications are invited for the following key senior position:

LIBRARIAN

The Librarian will be responsible to the Principal for the administration, operation and development of the Library and will be expected to play a leading part in planning its permanent building and material facilities. With the Principal and Heads of Schools he will participate in the overall academic development of the Institute.

Applicants should be graduates with professional library qualifications and must have had significant library experience at an appropriate level.

SALARY: Within the range $(A)9,340-$(A)10,706.

CLOSING DATE: 31st August, 1971.

CONDITIONS: Temporary rented housing can be provided and a staff housing scheme to provide assistance in purchasing or building a home is available. Fares for the appointee and his family and reasonable removal costs will be paid. An attractive superannuation scheme is provided.

FURTHER INFORMATION may be obtained from the Secretary at the address above.

APPLICATIONS, giving full personal particulars (including telephone number, qualifications, experience, present position and the names and addresses of three referees) should reach the Secretary by the closing date specified for the position concerned.

MEDICAL INFORMATION OFFICER

By that we mean someone who:
—is a female science graduate
—has an analytical mind
—is aged 20-25 years
—preferably holds a post-graduate diploma of the Librarians Association.

The successful applicant will join a small team whose primary function is to scan medical and related literature. Relevant information has then to be abstracted and incorporated into a mechanised catalogue. There will also be opportunities to deal with enquiries from all spheres of the medical profession.

The requirements shown are essential but all applicants will also be required to display a logical approach to the work, combined with an aptitude for information work.

The company is the oldest and largest affiliate of an international group of ethical pharmaceutical manufacturers. As one of the leaders in the field we are able to offer benefits that are in keeping with the high standard normally associated with the industry.

If you think you have the correct qualities for this type of work, write for an application form to:

Mr. Robert Charlton,
Personnel Officer,
Eli Lilly and Company Limited,
Basingstoke, Hants.
Tel. Basingstoke 3241.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL

requires

LIBRARIANS

for Libraries Department London

Candidates, preferably graduates and with library experience, must be librarians qualified or qualifying. Starting salary £1,121 at age 21 to £1,428 at 25, rising to £2,010 (salaries under review). Possible later consideration for overseas library service. Non-contributory superannuation scheme with transfer arrangements.

Write quoting G/3 to Staff Recruitment Department, The British Council, 65 Davies Street, London W1Y 2AA, for further particulars and application form to be submitted by 1 September.

BANK OF ENGLAND

Applications are invited for the post of

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN (CATALOGUER) (Female)

for duties in the Reference Library (banking and economic)

Candidates should be at least 24 years of age and must be Chartered Librarians with Part 2 papers in Cataloguing and Classification or equivalent. Cataloguing experience essential.

Salary according to age, £1,738 at 24, £2,052 at 30, rising to £2,473 by annual increments.

Applications, stating qualifications, previous experience and date of birth, should be forwarded to the Chief of Establishments (Recruiting Division), Bank of England, London, EC2R 8AH, not later than the 26th August, 1971.

LONDON BOROUGH OF LAMBETH

SCIENTIFIC LIBRARIAN

Applications are invited from chartered librarians with scientific experience for the post of Scientific Librarian in the Directorate of Library and Amenity Services. The officer appointed will be responsible to the Assistant Director (Libraries) for the exploitation and growth of the Chemic Technology Collection of the London Boroughs special collection; for the organisation and expansion of the Lambeth Information Network and to advise the Bibliographic Services Officer on the selection of scientific and technical books.

Salary: £2,025-£2,268 per annum (A.P.5) plus £144 per annum London Weighting.

Application form obtainable from the Directorate of Management Services, 17, Porden Road, Brixton Hill, London, S.W.2. Ref. No. 1/2.

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